MAX COMICS

EXPLICIT CONTENT

BENDIS
GAYDOS

JESSICA JONES: ALIAS®

MACK

JESSICA JONES:

ALIaS

94

17A

ALIAS
VESTIGATIONS

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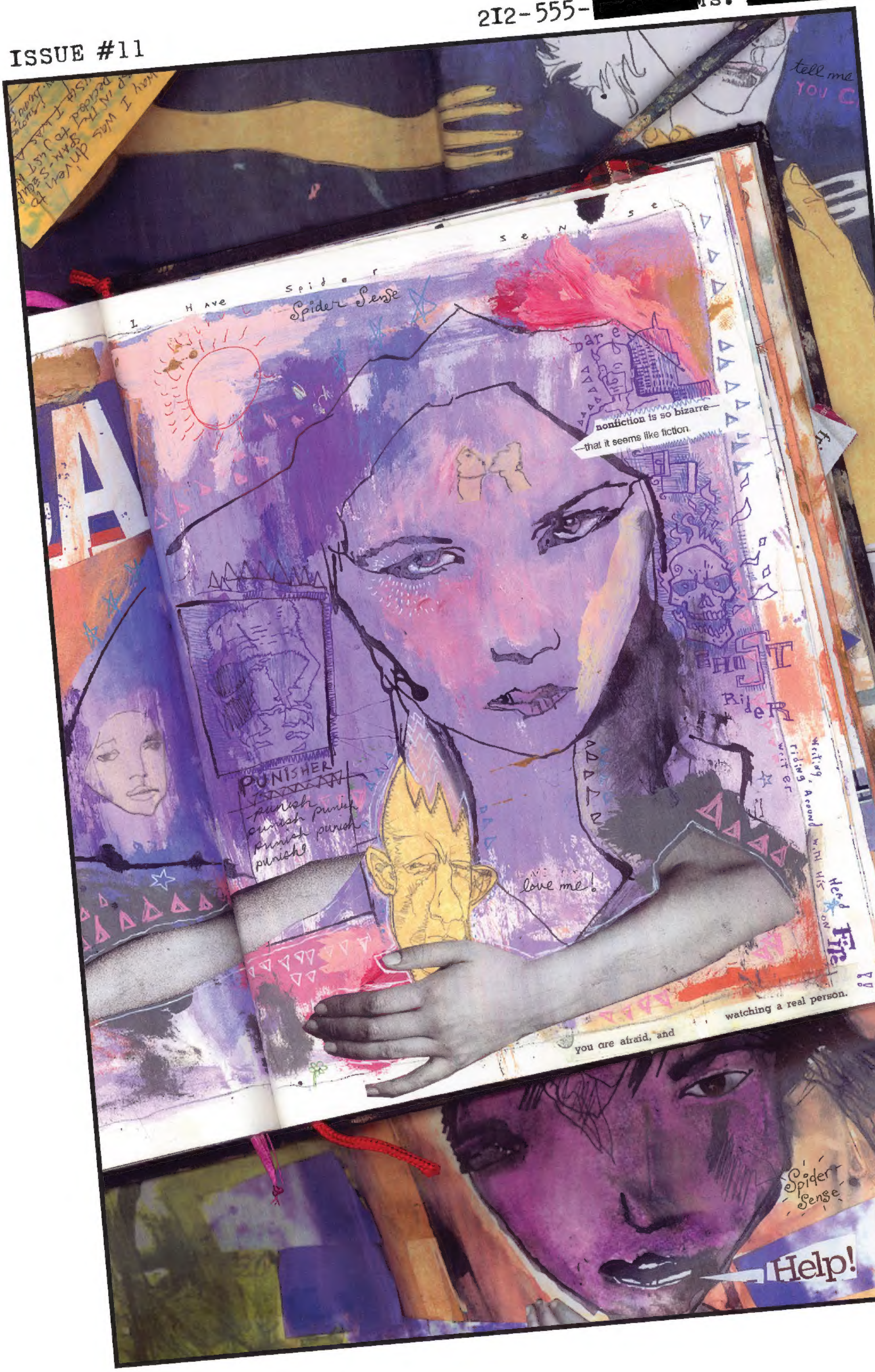
ISSUE #11

212-555-[redacted] Ms. [redacted]



AIN'T NO LOVE..
IN THE HEART OF
CITY!!! I SAID TH
AIN'T NO LOVE IN
HEART OF TOWN

AIN'T NO LOVE...
IN THE HEAAAHH OF THE
CITAAY!!! I SAID THERE
MMMM NO LOOAAAAVE
IN THE HEART OF
TOAAAWWWN!!

I SAID
THERE AIN'T
NO --

I SAID
THERE HUMM
LOOOOVEE!!

IN
THE HEART
OF THE --

HMMM DA DA
DA OF THEEEEEE
CITYAAAY!!

I SAID
THERE --

I SAID
THERE
AIN'T...

REBECCA,
PLEASE COME
HOME.
WE LOVE YOU.

WELCOME
TO
LAGO
NEW YORK

I SAID THERE AIN'T NO LOVE, IN THE HEART OF TOWN!!

94
17A
TSSK-- I FUCKING PASSED IT, DIDN'T I?
MILLER STREET. MILLER STREET.
THAT'S NOT... NO.
UM, HELLO? I NEED TO --
HELLO?
AAAAAAND -- HE CAN'T HEAR ME.
IT'S LIKE I TRIPPED AND FELL INTO 1978. GOD, I'M SUCH A FUCKING SNOB WHEN I'M --
-- TALKING... TO MYSELF.

FREE

LA OBSER

Investigator called in to find missing girl Rebecca Cross, case continues

JESSICA JONES

MOTHER FUCK!

DID THEY SPELL YOUR NAME WRONG?

OH SORRY. UM --

WELCOME TO OUR FAIR CITY.

YEAH, THANKS. DO YOU HAVE A QUARTER?

IT'S FREE.

OH.

YOU BEEN TO THE CROSSES' YET?

NO, I -- I WAS JUST --

YOU PASSED IT. IT'S TWO BLOCKS THAT WAY.

THANKS, I WAS JUST GOING TO ASK.

AFTER YOU'RE DONE TALKING TO THEM, COME SEE ME.

OKAY.

THINK IT'S BEST WE WORK TOGETHER.

OH SURE -- YEAH -- ABSOLUTELY.

GOOD.

NICE JACKET.

NICE GUN.

KATHERINE CROSS?
JESSICA JONES?
HI.
THANK YOU FOR COMING. THANK YOU.
IS YOUR SISTER HERE?
YES, I THINK SHE'S NAPPING. I HOPE SHE'S NAPPING.
UM -- I HAVE TO ASK ABOUT THIS.
ISN'T THAT GREAT?
WELL...
FRONT PAGE.
YEAH, BUT SEE -- REALLY, I'M YOUR PRIVATE INVESTIGATOR. *"PRIVATE"* BEING THE OPERATIVE ADJECTIVE. I --
OH --
SEE, IT WOULD HAVE BEEN MUCH EASIER FOR ME TO DO MY JOB IF EVERYONE IN TOWN HADN'T BEEN ALERTED TO MY PRESENCE.
OH --
YEAH --
HOW EXACTLY?
YOUR MISSING NIECE...
IMAGINE -- AND I THINK YOU HAVE OR I WOULDN'T BE HERE -- IMAGINE SOMEONE DID SOMETHING TO HER.
WELL, BY LETTING THEM KNOW I'M HERE...
SEE...
WHAT?
LETTING THEM KNOW I'M HERE, GIVES THEM A HEAD START IN HIDING EVIDENCE OR COVERING TRACKS OR...
DESTROYING THE BODY.
DO YOU THINK YOU'LL FIND MY DAUGHTER?
I'LL TRY.

I KNOW THIS IS DIFFICULT -- BUT IT IS NECESSARY.
PLEASE, IF YOU WOULD, TAKE ME THROUGH IT AGAIN. TELL ME WHAT YOU TOLD ME ON THE PHONE.
WHAT DO YOU WANT ME TO SAY?
JUST -- JUST START AT THE BEGINNING.
TAKE YOUR TIME.
THE LAST TIME YOU SAW HER...
APRIL 14TH.
WHAT'S TODAY?
IT'S -- IT'S MAY 12TH.
I WENT OUT TO PLAY BINGO THE NIGHT BEFORE AT THE CHURCH.
REBECCA WAS IN HER ROOM -- I PRESUMED -- DOING HOMEWORK.
WHEN I LEFT THE HOUSE I -- I DIDN'T EVEN LOOK IN ON HER OR SAY GOODBYE.
I -- I CAME HOME THAT NIGHT -- MY HUSBAND PASSED OUT IN HIS CHAIR WATCHING NIGHTLINE. SO I JUST -- JUST WENT TO BED.
I DIDN'T EVEN CHECK ON HER. I JUST WENT TO BED.
I MEAN -- SHE'S SIXTEEN YEARS OLD -- SHE DOESN'T NEED HER MOMMY TUCKING HER IN.
GREAT.
I MIGHT HAVE -- BUT I DON'T REMEMBER DOING IT.
I THINK I JUST LEFT.
THAT MORNING -- SHE WASN'T AT BREAKFAST. I THOUGHT SHE MAYBE LEFT TO GO TO MICKEY D'S BEFORE SCHOOL.
BUT I GOT A CALL FROM PRINCIPAL WARREN.
SHE -- SHE DIDN'T COME TO SCHOOL.
SO -- AS WE TOLD YOU ON THE PHONE -- I -- I DON'T KNOW ***WHEN*** SHE WENT MISSING.
I DON'T KNOW IF IT WAS THE DAY BEFORE -- THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT -- THAT MORNING. THAT DAY. I DON'T KNOW.
MA'AM, ARE YOU STILL NOT LIVING WITH YOUR HUSBAND?
NO! I AIN'T -- I, I MEAN I AM NOT LIVING WITH HIM ANYMORE.
ARE YOU SPEAKING WITH HIM ANYMORE?
NO.
UM -- IF I MAY BE FRANK, DO YOU HAVE SOME KIND OF REASON TO ***SUSPECT*** YOUR HUSBAND -- OR --?
LAST WEEK I WAS LAYING IN BED.
AND I -- I BECAME SO FULL OF --
-- OF --
-- OF -- -- ***ANGER*** TOWARDS HIM.
HIS LAZY, BLOATED FACE. I JUST -- I REALIZED -- I ***DON'T TRUST*** HIM.
REBECCA MISSING LIKE THIS -- IT OPENED MY EYES.
I DON'T ***TRUST*** HIM. I DON'T ***LIKE*** HIM.
I SEE THE WORLD DIFFERENTLY. I SEE ***MYSELF*** DIFFERENTLY. THERE'S -- I JUST DON'T TRUST HIM.
WHAT DO YOU THINK HE --?
THAT'S THE THING, MS. JONES, REALLY. I ***HAVE*** NO PROOF.
HE ***NEVER*** HIT ME. HE AIN'T VIOLENT OR -- BUT I WOULDN'T PUT ANYTHING PAST HIM.
I KNOW HE GOES TO WHORES. I ***KNOW*** IT.
AND I SEEN HIM LEERING AT HER -- HIS OWN DAUGHTER. LEERING. REBECCA KNEW IT TOO.
HE WAS SUCH A JACKASS ABOUT IT.
COULDN'T EVEN PRETEND NOT TO.

DID REBECCA EVER SAY ANYTHING ABOUT IT TO YOU?
ABOUT THE LEERING?
OR *ANYTHING* INAPPROPRIATE BETWEEN HER AND --
NO.
WERE YOU AND YOUR DAUGHTER CLOSE?
NO.
NO?
WELL, I COULD LIE TO YOU TO MAKE MYSELF FEEL BETTER --
I AM DONE LYING TO MYSELF.
WAS YOUR DAUGHTER IN ANY TROUBLE IN SCHOOL?
SHE'D BEEN MOUTHING OFF TO TEACHERS.
I'D BEEN GETTING A LOT OF CALLS ABOUT HER MOUTH.
SHE'D BEEN ALL A'S SINCE THE FIFTH GRADE SO'S THEY NEVER KICKED HER OUTTA CLASS OR NOTHIN'.
BUT -- SHE HAD A MOUTH ON HER.
ANY TROUBLE WITH STUDENTS? BOYS?
MOTHER'S ALWAYS LAST TO KNOW *THAT* STUFF.
I KNOW SHE HATED THE JOCKS ALL A LOT. I HEARD HER SAY IT.
ARE THOSE PICTURES?
YES...
UM -- I JUST -- I NEED THE MOST RECENT ONE.
THAT ONE -- AND --
-- AND THAT ONE.

NOTHING LIKE THIS HAS EVER HAPPENED HERE IN THIS TOWN, HAS IT?

NO.

ALL RIGHT... I'M GOING TO HAVE TO TALK TO YOUR HUSBAND, OF COURSE.

THEN I'LL GO TALK TO YOUR SHERIFF.

THEN THE SCHOOL.

AND FROM THERE I'LL BE ABLE TO LAY A FOUNDATION TO WHERE TO GO NEXT.

BUT WE HAVE TO DISCUSS THE UNCOMFORTABLE SUBJECT... OF MONEY.

I HAVE 75,000 DOLLARS IN BONDS.

YOU DO?

FIND MY DAUGHTER.

SOMEONE HURT MY BABY. I KNOW IT.

COME ON IN, BITCH.

SHE REALLY GONE AND DID IT.

SHE FUCKING CALLED A PRIVATE EYE IN TO PIN THIS SHIT ON ME.

MY NAME IS JESSICA JONES. I AM INVESTIGATING YOUR DAUGHTER'S DISAPPEARANCE.

SHE TELL YOU I *FUCKED* THE KID?

I WOULD LIKE TO SIT AND TALK TO YOU LIKE TWO CIVIL HUMAN BEINGS ABOUT WHAT SHE --

IN MY LIFE, I NEVER WOULD'A THOUGHT IT WOULD ALL COME TO THIS. NEVER.

I SEE THESE IDIOTS ON TALK SHOWS AND I'D LAUGH MY FUCKING ASS OFF AT 'EM.

NOW, I'D BET THEY'D LAUGH AT ME.

FRANK'S PIZZA

WOULD NOW BE A GOOD TIME TO SIT AND TALK?

YOU KNOW WHAT?

I DON'T THINK *I'M* GOING TO HELP YOU HELP MY WIFE PUT *ME* IN JAIL FOR *NOTHIN'*.

NO, DON'T THINK SO.

I DIDN'T *KILL* MY DAUGHTER.

I DIDN'T *FUCK* MY DAUGHTER.

I DIDN'T EVEN *THINK* ABOUT FUCKIN' MY DAUGHTER.

WHAT I WAS -- WAS PROUD OF MY DAUGHTER.

WHEN SHE WAS A LITTLE GIRL PLAYING ON THE FLOOR HERE, I WOULD STARE AT HER AND I'D PRAY TO JESUS THAT SHE'D GROW UP *SMARTER* THAN ME AND -- AND BETTER *LOOKIN'* THAN ME.

THAT -- THAT SHE'D BE BETTER THAN US.

THAT SHE'D BE ABLE TO *GO* FARTHER THAN US.

AND -- AND SHE WAS GOING TO.

ALL OF A SUDDEN YOU -- YOU COULD SEE IT.

SHE *WAS* BETTER THAN US AND PRETTIER THAN ALL OF US.

SEE? I KNOW THAT IN THIS WORLD NO ONE LISTENS TO US UGLY PEOPLE. IT'S ONLY THE GOOD-LOOKING ONES.

I JUST WANTED PEOPLE TO LISTEN TO HER.

AND I WAS JUST SO *HAPPY* THAT SHE WAS GOING TO MAKE IT.

AND NOW THAT DRUNK PSYCHO IS GOING TO TRY TO *PUNISH* ME FOR IT.

SHE'S GOING TO USE THIS HORRIBLE THING TO PUNISH ME!

FUCK YOU FOR COMING HERE.

FUCK YOU FOR THINKIN' YOU CAN INTIMIDATE ME -- LIKE I GOT *ANYTHING* LEFT TO LOSE.

BUT YOU GO AHEAD. THE HOUSE IS YOURS. YOU GO THROUGH EVERYTHING.

YOU GO THROUGH THIS ENTIRE TOWN.

JUST FIND WHAT HAPPENED TO MY GIRL.

YOU FIND OUT WHAT MONSTER DID THIS AND YOU GO TO MY WIFE AND YOU TELL HER THAT SHE IS *EVIL!!*

EVIL FOR USING THIS TO PUNISH ME.

SO I HAVE PERMISSION TO GO THROUGH THE HOUSE?

YOU CAN *HAVE* IT FOR ALL I CARE.

PLEASE DON'T LEAVE TOWN UNTIL WE TALK.

WHERE'M I GONNA GO?

MAN...

WELL...

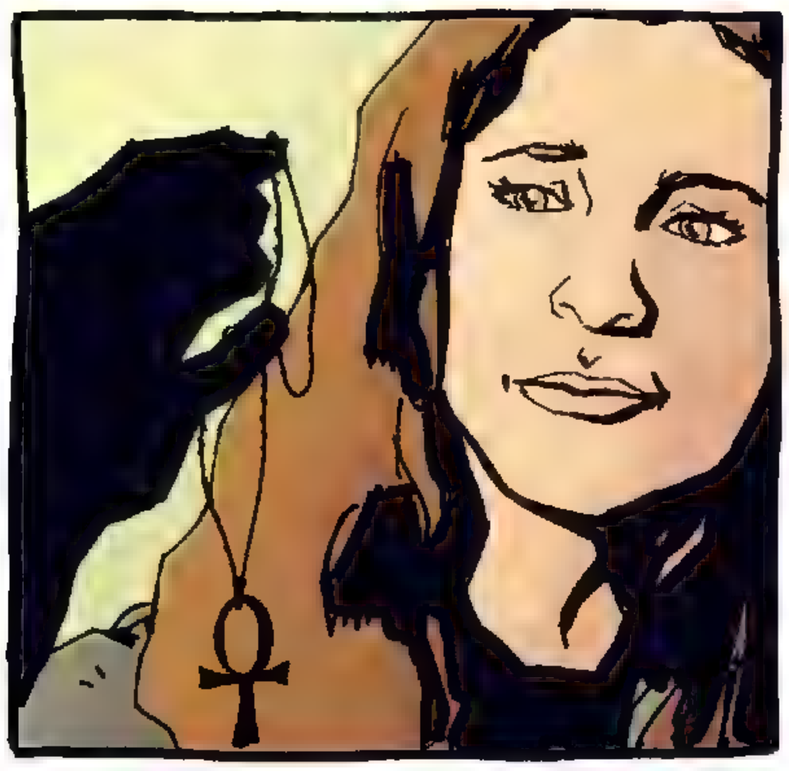
ANYTHING CREEPIER THAN BEING IN A STRANGER'S HOUSE?

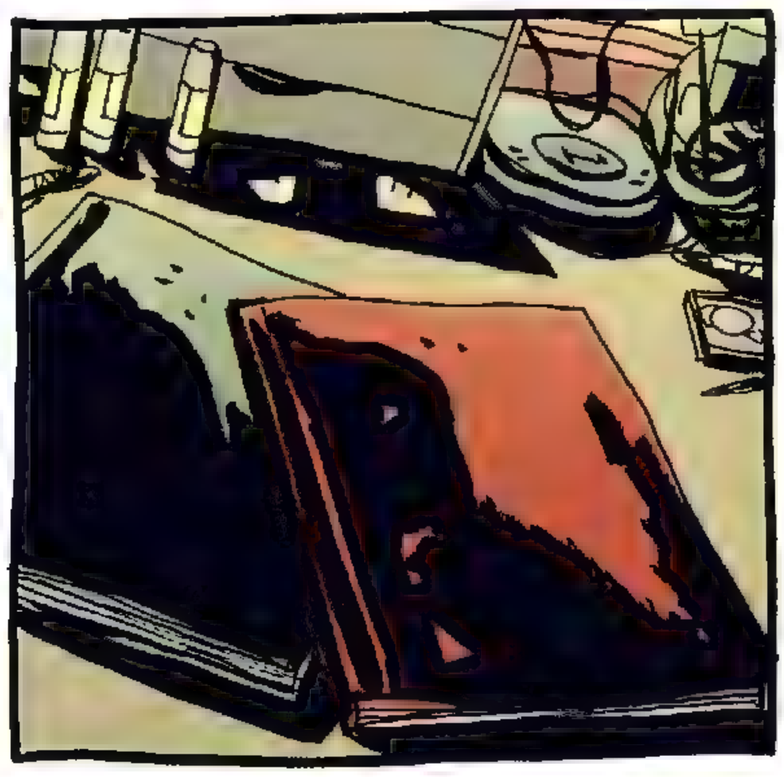
NO.

LOVELY.

REBECCA

MUSIC 4U





PUNISHER
LOVE ME

FIND ANYTHING?

WHERE SHE KEEPS HER POT.

WANT TO SPLIT IT?

IT'S EMPTY.
YOU DIDN'T FIND THIS WHEN YOU SEARCHED?
NOPE. WELL, YOU KNOW WE DIDN'T LOOK THAT THOROUGHLY IN *HERE.*
WHY?
BECAUSE WE KNEW SHE WASN'T *IN* HERE.
I HAVE HER PHONE BOOK AND SUCH.
WHICH YOU WOULD KNOW IF YOU WOULD HAVE COME TO SEE ME... LIKE YOU SAID YOU WERE GOING TO.
I SAID AFTER I TALK TO THE PARENTS.
I WAS GOING TO.
UH-HUH.
I WAS.
I *WANT* TO WORK WITH YOU. JUST WANT TO FIND THE GIRL.
I HOPE SO.
I DO. OF COURSE.
HOPE SO.
ANY CHANCE YOU KNOW WHO THE LOCAL POT DEALER IS?
IF I DID, HE WOULDN'T BE THAT ANYMORE.
I SWEAR I'M NOT TRYING TO PISS YOU OFF BUT I AM GETTING THE FEELING THAT I --
IT'S ONE OF THE SENIOR STUDENTS, BUT I'M NOT SURE WHICH ONE.
CAN I TAKE THESE BACK TO MY HOTEL ROOM?
IF YOU GIVE THEM BACK.
PROMISE.
WHAT ARE THEY?
COLLAGE BOOKS.
WHAT KIND OF COLLEGE...?
COLLAGE. MAGAZINE PICTURES, QUOTES. SKETCHES.
I USED TO MAKE THESE TOO.
(WISH I STILL DID.)
HUH.
YEAH. MIGHT BE CLUES. MESSAGES. MIGHT BE NOTHING.
EITHER WAY -- THE VICTIM SPEAKS.

COLLAGE BOOKS.
I LIKE GIRL THINGS.
IT'S A GIRL THING.
SO YOU'VE BEEN THROUGH THE NEIGHBORHOOD PRETTY GOOD?
YEAH, FIVE TIMES.
YOU CHECK THE BASEMENT?
SHE AIN'T ON THE PROPERTY. I CAN TELL YOU THAT.
WHAT?
YOU GOT --
THIS IS A FUNNY THING TO ASK -- BUT...
THEY SAY YOU GOT SUPER POWERS?
YEAH.
THIS GOING TO BE A PROBLEM?
NOT IF YOU BEHAVE YOURSELF.
OKAY.
GUESS I'LL SEE YOU LATER.
BACK TO HIGH SCHOOL.
WHERE YOU GOING?
WANNA GO TOGETHER?
NAH. I'M COOL. INVESTIGATION'S A LITTLE CONSPICUOUS WITH THE BADGE ESCORT.
I GUESS. YOU GONNA COME SEE ME AFTER?
PROMISE. I NEED TO FIND A PLACE TO STAY.

SORRY PRINCIPAL WARREN COULDN'T MEET WITH YOU TODAY.

IT'S OK.

THE BUDGET MEETING WITH THE STATE CAN BE...

WELL, I DIDN'T HAVE AN APPOINTMENT.

BUT I KNOW THAT THIS SITUATION IS VERY IMPORTANT TO HIM.

OF COURSE.

THIS IS HER LOCKER. FROM WHAT I UNDERSTAND EVERYTHING IS STILL IN IT.

THE PARENTS DIDN'T COLLECT HER STUFF?

NO, I GUESS NOT.

I HAVE TO GET BACK TO THE PHONES. SO, JUST CLOSE IT WHEN YOU'RE DONE AND HOPEFULLY THE PRINCIPAL WILL BE OFF THE PHONE BY THEN.

THANKS SO MUCH.

HUH.

LET ME ASK YOU -- DO YOU KNOW WHO HER FRIENDS WERE AT SCHOOL? WHICH CLIQUE SHE RAN WITH?

HMMM. NO. I REALLY WOULDN'T. THE PRINCIPAL OR MAYBE ONE OF THE TEACHERS...

OKAY.

SORRY.

NO, IT'S FINE.

YOU'RE LOOKING AT THE WRONG SIDE OF THE DOOR.

How did hate me killed every me

WHAT?

WHAT YOU'RE LOOKING FOR IS ON THE FRONT OF THE LOCKER.

1138

SEE IT?

NO, WHAT ARE --?

OH.

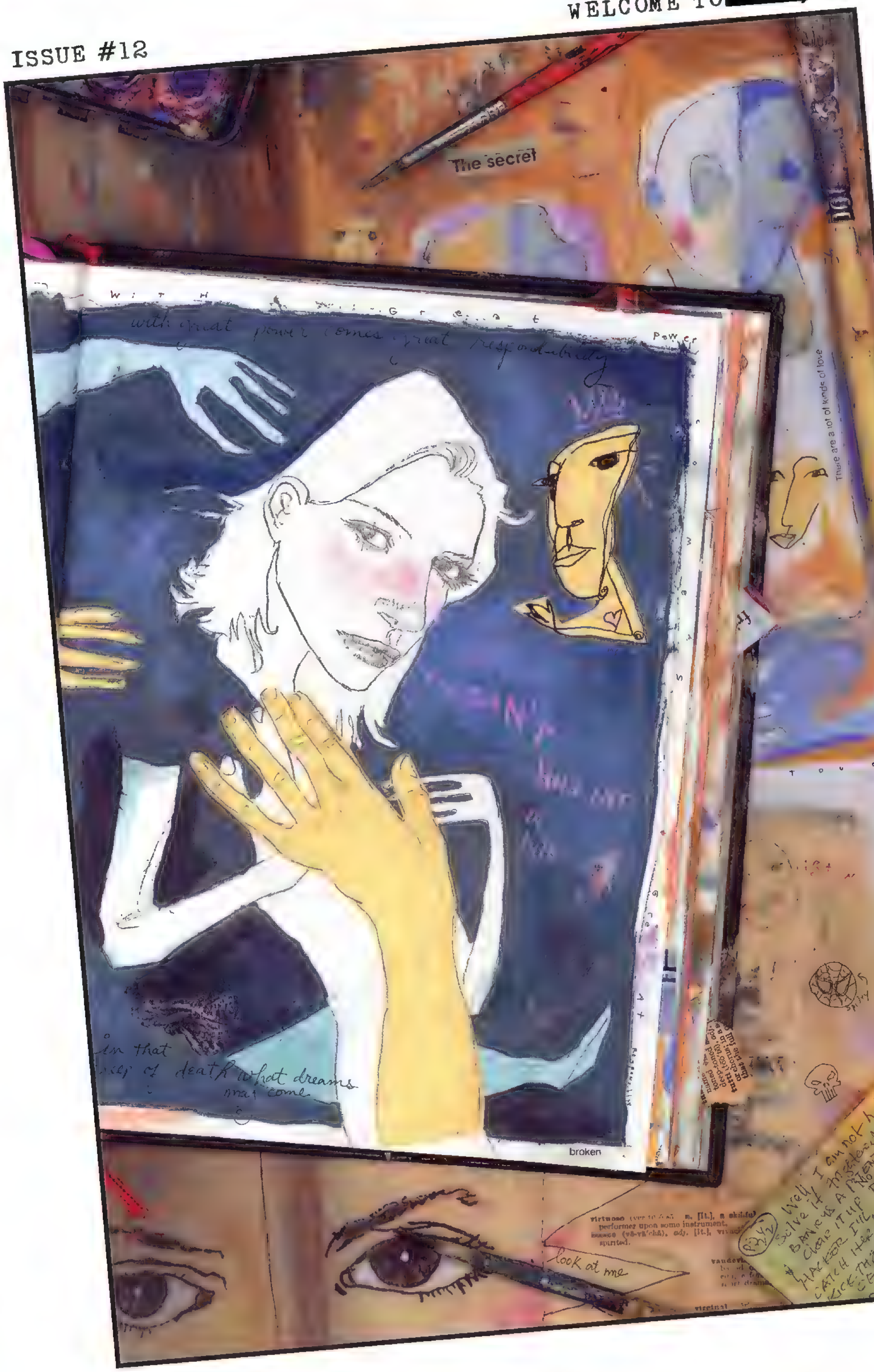
WHAT IS THIS?

WHAT DO YOU EXPECT...

...SHE WAS A MUTANT.

WELCOME TO [redacted] NY

ISSUE #12



A MUTANT?
REBECCA CROSS -- A MUTANT.
OH YEAH.
A MUTANT.
TOTALLY.
IS THAT SLANG?
LIKE SOME KIND OF -- ?
SLANG FOR WHAT?
WHEN YOU SAY MUTANT, YOU MEAN *HOMO SUPERIOR?*
I DON'T UNDERST --
YOU'RE SAYING SHE WAS GENETICALLY -- WITH POWERS.
HELLO! YES.
A MUTANT?
WHAT? AM I SPEAKING CHINESE? YES!
WHO *TOLD* YOU THAT?
SHE DID.
WAIT -- *WHO* ARE YOU?
I'M MARY WILKINSON. I, LIKE, GO TO SCHOOL HERE.
WERE YOU FRIENDS?
LIKE IN THE FOURTH GRADE, BUT NOT NOW.
YOU *USED* TO BE FRIENDS?
YEAH.
SO HOW DID SHE COME TO TELL YOU SHE WAS A MUTANT IF YOU WEREN'T FRIENDS ANYMORE?
SHE -- UH -- SHE KIND OF GOT SICK OF ME OR SOMETHING.
I REALLY DON'T REMEMBER WHAT --
WELL, YEAH, SHE DIDN'T TELL ME DIRECTLY...
...BUT LIZ ASKED HER IF SHE WAS AND SHE DIDN'T DENY IT.
LIZ?
SHE'S A CHEER-LEADER --
(I THINK HER TITS ARE FAKES.)
LIZ THE CHEER-LEADER TOLD YOU.
NO. FREDDY THOMPSON TOLD HER AND SHE ASKED REBECCA.
AND REBECCA DIDN'T DENY IT.
FREDDY?
HE'S ON THE FOOTBALL TEAM.
FREDDY THE FOOTBALL PLAYER.
IT'S TRUE.
WHAT KIND OF POWERS DID SHE HAVE?

WHAT? I -- I UH--I DON'T KNOW EXACTLY.

DO THEY ALL HAVE POWERS?

KIND OF THE WHOLE POINT OF BEING A MUTANT.

HUH.

SO YOU NEVER SAW HER USE HER POWERS?

SAW?

NO.

BUT FREDDY TOLD LIZ AND LIZ TOLD EVERYBODY ELSE...

YOU KNOW IT'S TRUE, BECAUSE, LIKE, WHY WOULDN'T SHE DENY IT?

LIZ FLAT OUT ***ASKED*** HER AND SHE JUST -- I MEAN -- BEING A MUTANT IS LIKE BEING GAY OR ***JEWISH*** -- -- YOU DON'T WANT TO PRETEND YOU ARE IF YOU'RE NOT, RIGHT?

RIGHT?

LOVELY.

WHERE'S THIS FREDDY PERSON?

UH -- I DON'T KNOW.

PROBABLY PLAYING ON THE FIELD OR -- OH, HE WORKS AT DAIRY QUEEN.

I -- UH -- HOPE YOU FIND HER...

I HOPE SHE'S NOT DEAD.

HEY...

OH UH... HEY...

ANY OF THESE GUYS FREDDY THOMPSON?

UH -- UH -- THAT ONE.

THANKS.

FUCK MY DICK, IT'S THE HOTTEST SUB IN THE HISTORY OF THE WORLD.

HEY BABY.

YOU THE NEW SUBSTITUTE ENGLISH TEACHER?

FREDDY?

YEAH?

CAN I TALK TO YOU FOR A SECOND?

BABY, YOU CAN DO ANYTHING YOU --

JUST COME HERE.

FREDDY, WORD IS THAT YOU WENT AROUND TELLING PEOPLE THAT REBECCA CROSS WAS A MUTANT.

WHAT IS THIS?

WHY DID YOU DO THAT?

IS THIS SOME KIND OF -- ?

DID YOU SEE REBECCA CROSS MANIFEST HER POWERS?

UH -- ARE YOU SPEAKING ENGLISH?

WHY DID YOU TELL EVERYONE SHE WAS A MUTANT?

'CAUSE SHE SAID SHE WAS.

I ASKED HER OUT -- YOU KNOW -- I DON'T --

HEY, THIS IS CONFIDENTIAL, RIGHT?

SURE.

THIS -- WELL, I ASKED HER OUT.

NOT "OUT" OUT...

BUT, YOU KNOW...

I EXPRESSED AN INTEREST.

YOU HIT ON HER.

(UH -- YEAH, SURE, BUT -- NICELY.)

AND SHE GOT ALL WEIRD AND SHIT ON ME...

STARTED TALKING ABOUT HOW HER MUTANT POWERS WOULD *KILL* ME IF WE ACTUALLY DID IT.

HER MUTANT POWERS --

UH -- WHO ARE YOU?

LIKE, THE MUTANT POLICE?

IT'S NOT ILLEGAL TO TRY TO BANG A MUTANT, IS IT? BECAUSE I REALLY DON'T THINK THAT'S...

MS. JONES?

MS. JONES?

WHAT A PLEASURE TO MEET YOU. ≠COFF≠ MY ≠ACHEM≠ MY NAME IS PATRICE PUGAWA.

THE SHERIFF SAID HE TOLD YOU ALL ABOUT ME.

NO...

I RUN THE NEWSPAPER.

OH...

HOW WOULD YOU SAY YOUR INVESTIGATION IS GOING SO FAR?

YEAH, UH, I AM NOT GOING TO BE TALKING TO YOU.

THE PEOPLE OF THIS TOWN HAVE BEEN HORRIFIED -- JUST HORRIFIED -- BY WHAT MIGHT HAVE BECOME OF THAT POOR GIRL AND THEY WILL BE JUST --

I KNOW THEY NEED TO HEAR ABOUT ANY -- UM -- ***PROGRESS*** YOU'RE MAKING IN THE CASE.

CAN WE TALK OFF THE RECORD?

UH --

IT'S THE ONLY WAY WE WILL TALK.

OKAY.

SEE, IF I GIVE YOU THESE LITTLE "UPDATES" YOU WANT, AND THERE IS SOMEONE OUT THERE WHO DID SOMETHING THEY SHOULDN'T HAVE DONE TO THIS POOR GIRL...

THEN I AM, THROUGH YOU, GIVING HIM ANY INFORMATION HE WILL NEED TO COVER HIS TRACKS.

OR WORSE, RUN AWAY, OR...

DO YOU BELIEVE IT'S A *MAN* WHO...?

WHAT? NO.

YOU SAID --

I WAS -- I'LL -- I'LL TALK TO YOU LATER.

ARE YOU COMING TO THE CHURCH ON SUNDAY?

PROBABLY NOT.

YOU REALLY SHOULD.

AMERICA

PUNISHER

Love M

tell you the truth

YOU KEEP

YOUR

Secrets

This particle has no nucleus.

LAST ENTRY

Birdcage

Black Raven Tea™

Daily Delicious Black

Net Wt. 3 oz. (85 g)

Eastern Shore Tea Co

...me of her
tures she has inscribed a text, su...
"Do you love me?" or "Do not abandon
me." These are the pieces I understa...
...ecause the words
of th

...en you
it in qu

HERE YOU GO.
THANK YOU, SHERIFF.
GIRL CAN PUT IT AWAY.
EVERYONE NEEDS A HOBBY.
WHAT DO YOU SEE?
...I DON'T KNOW.
DON'T KNOW IF I SEE ANYTHING.
I MADE COLLAGE BOOKS LIKE THIS WHEN I WAS IN HIGH SCHOOL TOO.
THOUGHT -- THOUGHT MAYBE THERE WOULD BE A CLUE.
GIRL'S PRETTY FUCKING TALENTED.
KINDA GOT A THING FOR THAT GUY IN THE DEVIL COSTUME, DON'T SHE?
WHO DOESN'T?
ME.
HA!
SO, IS THIS THE MOSTEST FUCKED UP CASE YOU EVER HAD?
"MOSTEST FUCKED UP..."
NO. NOT *YET*, AT LEAST. NO.
WHAT WAS?
OH, I DON'T WANT TO...
NO, COME ON.
AH, WELL, IT'S REALLY SAD. IT'S -- THERE -- THERE WAS THIS BABY THAT HAD --
OH! AND THERE SHE IS!

THE BITCH THAT'S GOING TO FUCK UP MY LIFE!

OH, MAN...

SUPERBITCH!

WHAT KIND OF SUPERPOWERS YOU NEED TO COME AROUND HERE AND FUCK UP MY LIFE?

SSSHHUPER *BITCH* POWERS?

ED!

YOU TWO ALL BUDDIES, IS IT? YOU HER LITTLE BOY WONDER SIDEKICK?

YEAH, WHATEVER.

ED, NOW WHY YOU WANT TO GO AND MAKE A FUSS AROUND HER? GIVING HER A HARD TIME?

SEEMS TO ME SHE'S THE ONLY ONE IN THIS TOWN WE KNOW FOR SURE HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH YOUR DAUGHTER.

YOU KNOW WHO ACTS THE WAY YOU'RE ACTIN'? GUILTY PEOPLE.

PEOPLE WITH SOMETHING TO HIDE.

AW... FUCK YOU.

HOW YOU GONNA SAY THAT SHIT TO ME?

YOU SHOULD SOBER YOUR ASS UP AND BE HELPING HER.

IF IT WAS *MY* DAUGHTER...

I JUST...

I KNOW...

SORRY...

SORRY...

WELL...

YEAH...

WHAT...?

YOU -- UH -- YOU SAID YOU WERE SINGLE, RIGHT?

TOM'S BAR

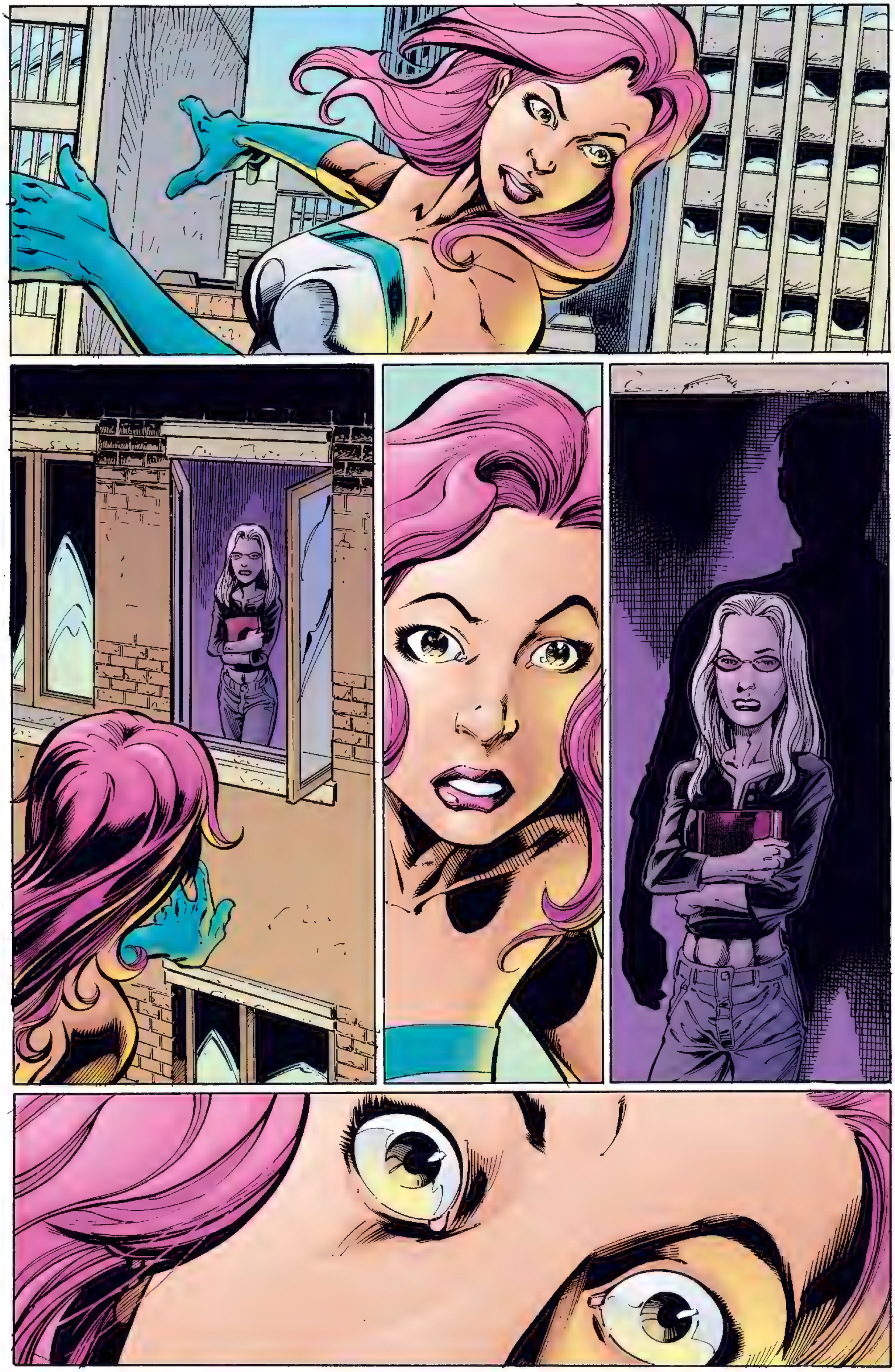
MMMMM, YOU GOING TO FUCK ME, SHERIFF? HUH? YOU GOING TO --?

UHMMMMM...

MMM... WAIT -- WAIT, I...

WHAT? COME ON, COME ON, COME'NNNN...

I THINK YOU'RE DRUNK.
WELL, DUH! HA!!!
COME ON...
COME BACK HERE...
COME HERE! COME HERE!
I -- I DON'T WANT TO.
COME ON!
LISTEN, WITH YOUR POWERS -- YOU -- YOU MIGHT HURT ME OR SOMETHING...
NOT UNLESSH YOU WANT ME TO --
KIDDING...
COME ON...
WE'RE TWO CONSENTING ADULT PEOPLES...
THERE'S NO ONE HERE BUT MEEEE AND YOOOU...
JUST ME AND YOU...
AND THISSSS GUY.
OOOOOOH MAN...
WE CAN DO WHATEVER WE WANT...
WHATEVER WE WANT...
WHATEVER WE WANT



FUF...

HELLO?

COUGH...
AGH...

UAAGGHH...

WHAT THE FUCK, MAN?

THE FUCK --

YOU FUCKED ME AND THREW ME IN JAIL?

WELL, I -- ACHEM --
I CERTAINLY WASN'T GOING TO HAVE YOU STAY IN MY HOUSE.
FUCK YOU...
DO YOU REMEMBER LAST NIGHT?
FUCK YOU, YOU...
...OH.
YEAH.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU ARE USED TO -- BUT THAT WAS A BIT MUCH FOR ME, SO...

WHAT FUCKING DAY IS IT?

SATURDAY.

SATURDAY.

SATURDAY.

SATURDAY.

94

17A

"AM I GOING TO CHURCH ON SUNDAY?"

CHURCH ON SUNDAY -- WHY DID THAT REPORTER SAY THAT TO ME?

WHAT THE FUCK DID THAT MEAN?

OKAY, WHERE WAS I? FEAST OF THE BLAH BLAH BLAH... THE SACRAMENT OF THE... UH... OH YEAH.

AND IN ALL OF THE BIBLE, I COULD NOT FIND ONE MENTION OF THE WORD MUTATION.

THAT'S NOT TO SAY THE WORD DOESN'T EXIST, BECAUSE IT DOES.

BUT GOD CREATED MAN AND HE CREATED WOMAN AND HE CREATED ALL THE ANIMALS THAT WALKED TWO BY TWO ONTO NOAH'S ARK...

...BUT WHAT GOD ***DIDN'T*** CREATE, ARE MUTANTS.

MAN CREATED MUTANTS.

MUTANTS ARE AN ABOMINATION BROUGHT ON BY MAN'S GREED.

AND THOUGH GOD WANTS US ALL TO LOVE ALL OF GOD'S CREATURES...

OH, HELLO --

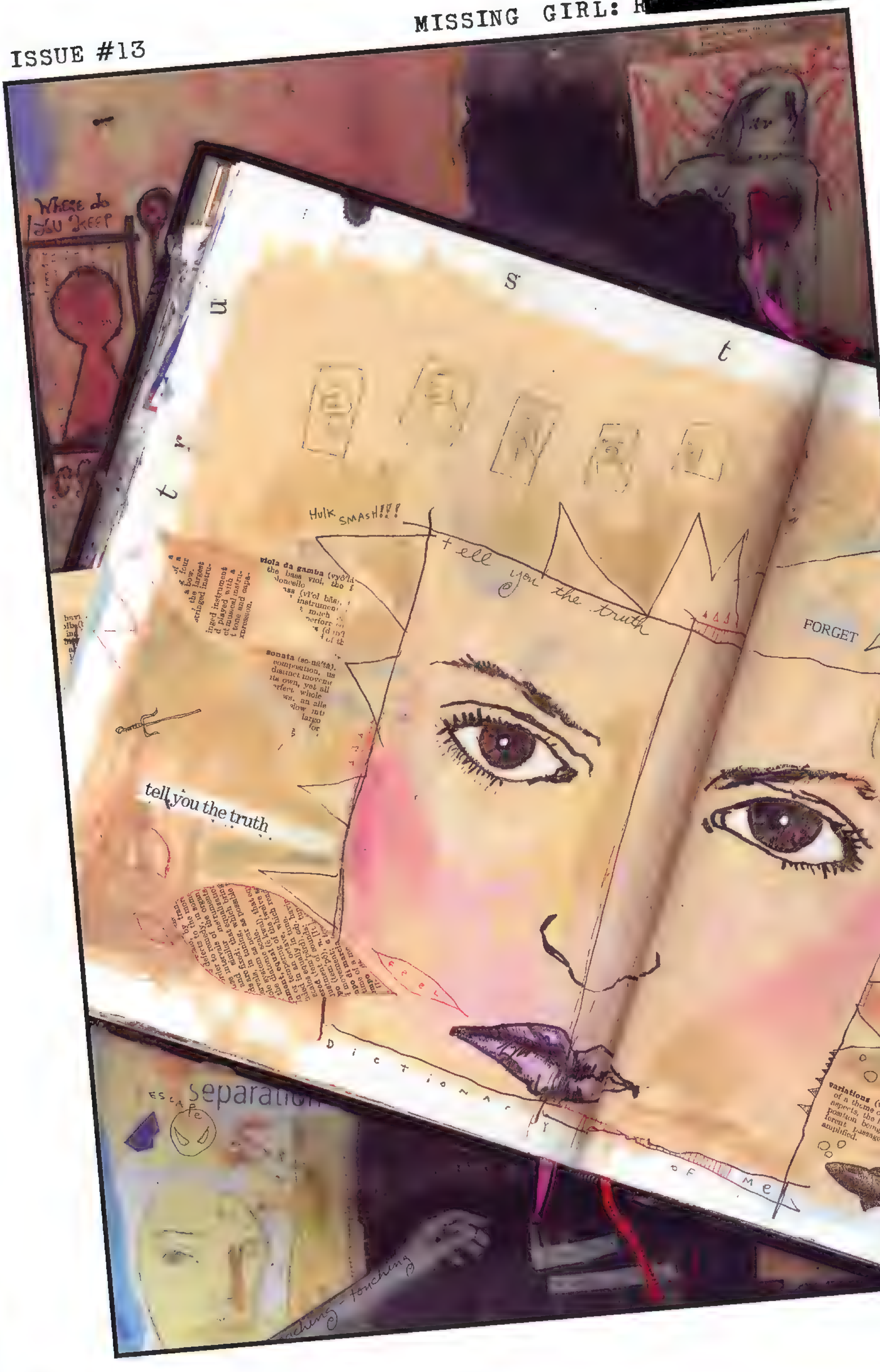
CAN YOU HEAR ME BACK THERE?

JUST PRACTICING FOR TOMORROW AND I CAN NEVER TELL IF MY VOICE IS --

I HEAR YOU JUST FINE.

ISSUE #13

MISSING GIRL: R[redacted]



MUTANTS, HUH...

WELL, YES, THE MORE *TOPICAL* SERMONS ALWAYS GO OVER THE BEST.

I THINK PEOPLE -- PEOPLE LIKE TO SEE AN IMMEDIATE PARALLEL TO THEIR LIVES AND THE SCRIPTURES.

UH-HUH.

ARE YOU NEW TO THE AREA, OR...?

OH, GOOD FOR YOU. RELATIVES?

JUST PASSING THROUGH.

BUSINESS.

WAIT, WAIT -- ARE YOU -- ?

YOU'RE NOT THAT PRIVATE INVESTIGATOR, ARE YOU?

YEAH...

THE ONE WHO'S A -- A YOU KNOW...

A *SUPER* HERO PERSON.

NO, I AM NOT A *"SUPER HERO PERSON."*

UH -- WELL, IT'S -- UH -- IT'S A CRYING SHAME WHAT HAPPENED TO THAT FAMILY.

YES.

HAS THERE BEEN ANY -- HAVE YOU MADE ANY HEADWAY? *(I GUESS THAT'S THE WORD.)*

WORKING ON IT.

DO THE CROSSES GO TO CHURCH HERE?

WELL, WHEN THEY DO...

WHICH SADLY, ISN'T OFTEN ENOUGH.

THE GIRL.

THE GIRL'S NEVER BEEN IN HERE AS FAR AS I CAN RECALL.

YOU KNOW HOW IT IS WITH YOUNG PEOPLE THAT AGE.

HOW OLD ARE YOU?

THIRTY.

WELL, I HOPE WE WILL SEE YOU TOMORROW MORNING FOR THE REAL SHOW AND NOT JUST THE REHEARSAL.

SURE. YEAH, SURE.

NO, WAIT, YOU KNOW WHAT?

I'LL BE PISSED AT MYSELF FOREVER IF I DON'T SAY THIS.

WHAT?

THAT SERMON YOU WERE JUST PRACTICING -- IS THAT WHAT YOU PLAN ON SAYING TOMORROW IN FRONT OF YOUR CONGREGATION?

YES, OF COURSE.

YOU'RE ACTUALLY GOING TO GET UP IN FRONT OF A GROUP OF PEOPLE AND SAY THAT *"MUTANTS ARE AN ABOMINATION"*?

YES...

WOW!

WHAT?

PEOPLE ARE GOING TO LISTEN TO YOU AND THEY ARE GOING TO ***BELIEVE*** YOU.

I HOPE SO...

I'M SORRY, BUT I BELIEVE YOU ARE MISINFORMED.

MUTANTS ARE QUITE CLEARLY AN ABOMINATION BROUGHT ON BY MAN'S GREED.

BUT IT'S NOT TRUE.

SAYS ***WHO?***

SAYS ***NATURE.***

SAYS ***YOU.***

NO, SAYS THE NATURAL ORDER OF ***THINGS.***

AND SO IN TOUCH WITH THE *"NATURAL ORDER OF THINGS,"* ARE YOU --

-- THAT YOU FEEL THAT YOU CAN RESPONSIBLY REPRESENT IT TO THE PUBLIC?

WE ALL ARE, I BELIEVE.

WOW!

YOU'RE MORE THAN WELCOME TO DISAGREE.

I -- I -- I THINK THIS THING YOU'RE DOING HERE IS ABOUT THE SINGLE MOST ***DISGUSTING*** THING I HAVE EVER SEEN IN MY ***LIFE.***

HOW IS THAT?

YOU'RE PREACHING ***HATE!***

LIKE SOME BACKWATER SHIT-KICKING HICK -- YOU'RE --

I'M NOT DOING ANYTHING OF THE --

YOU ARE PREACHING MISINFORMATION THAT --

I DON'T -- LISTEN -- I DON'T PRETEND TO BE AN EXPERT IN RELIGION OR EVEN *"ORGANIZED RELIGION"* --

-- BUT IT SEEMS TO ME THAT THE ENTIRE PURPOSE OF A BELIEF SYSTEM LIKE THIS --

-- IS TO GIVE PEOPLE SOMETHING SO THEY CAN BE THE BEST KIND OF PERSON THEY CAN FIGURE OUT HOW TO BE.

THAT'S ALL.

AND I TELL YOU...

IF I FIND YOU AND THIS DOG AND PONY SHOW YOU'RE PUTTING ON HAS ***ANYTHING*** TO DO WITH WHAT HAPPENED TO REBECCA CROSS --

WHAT? WAIT -- WHY WOULD THIS HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH --?

SHE WAS A MUTANT.

FUCK YOU.

=SNIFF...=

YOU HEARD ME, FUCK YOU!

FUCK YOU. FUCK YOU. FUCK YOU.

FUCK YOU.

FUCK YOU.

YOU WANT TO SEE ME NAKED?

YOU WANT TO SEE ME FUCK SOME GUY? YOU THINK I DON'T KNOW?

FUCK YOU.

THERE ARE MORE IMPORTANT THINGS IN THIS WORLD AND I DON'T GIVE A SHIT ***WHAT*** YOU WANT...

I WILL DO WHAT I...

JESUS WAS A MUTANT

Call for a

LORD...

JESSICA, LISTEN I...

DON'T.

I JUST --

DON'T, REALLY...

NO, I REALLY FEEL BAD.

GO WITH THAT THEN.

NO, I -- I PANICKED. I --

YEAH, YOU THINK?

I -- I LIKE YOU AND --

UGH -- DON'T.

THE THING IS -- IS I HAVE HAD SOME BAD BREAKUPS AND --

I SWEAR I DON'T CARE.

NO, SERIOUSLY, I -- I *LIKE* YOU. I JUST...

YOU *LIKE* ME?

WELL, YEAH...

YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW ME, YOU FUCK!

I KNOW YOU A LITTLE...

ALL YOU KNOW ABOUT ME IS THAT IF YOU GET A COUPLE OF DRINKS INTO ME, I MIGHT FUCK YOU.

THAT'S ALL YOU KNOW.

NOW THAT'S --

AND ALL I KNOW OF YOU IS THAT WHEN THE GOING GETS TOUGH YOU'D RATHER TOSS ME IN A JAIL CELL THAN ACTUALLY BE A HUMAN BEING OR ANYTHING AND...

UGH!!!

I SWEAR, I DON'T CARE ABOUT YOU OR ANY OF THIS.

I HAVE A JOB TO DO, I HAVE A GIRL TO FIND!

YOU CARE...

NO, I REALLY...

YOU CARE.

AND I'M SORRY.

I SAID I WAS SORRY AND WHERE I COME FROM, IF SOMEONE APOLOGIZES YOU --

BVOOP

HELLO?

HI, IS THIS JESSICA JONES?

YES.

THIS IS SCOTTIE LANG...

UM...

CAROL DANVERS GAVE ME YOUR NUMBER...

CAROL, YOU GODDAMN BITCH.

HELLO?

SHE GAVE YOU MY NUMBER?

UH, SHE SAID THAT YOU WERE... EXPECTING MY CALL.

I...

DID I CATCH YOU AT A BAD TIME?

UH, YES, ACTUALLY.

I'M -- I'M RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF A CASE.

OH YEAH, YOU'RE A REAL PRIVATE EYE, HUH?

YEAH...

SOUNDS PRETTY EXCITING.

LAGO OBSERVER

NOT REALLY. PRETTY FRUSTRATING ACTUALLY.

LISTEN, CAN WE TALK AT ANOTHER TIME? AS I SAID, I'M RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF...

OH, OH SURE, I JUST -- I -- UH -- I WAS WONDERING IF WHEN YOU'RE NOT IN THE MIDDLE OF A CASE OR WHATEVER IF YOU WANTED TO GET TOGETHER OR SOMETHING...

WELL, I'M NOT EVEN IN THE CITY RIGHT NOW

REALLY, WHERE ARE YOU?

IN HELL.

OH YEAH?

I HAVEN'T BEEN THERE IN A COUPLE OF YEARS.

HOW'S IT HOLDING UP?

SAME OLD HELL.

WELL, YOU'VE GOT MY NUMBER ON YOUR CELL PHONE IF YOU...

YOU'RE ANT-MAN, RIGHT?

OY...

BUT NOT ANYMORE?

HMMM...

YOU KNOW WHAT?

FOR THAT STORY, YOU'RE ACTUALLY GOING TO HAVE TO GO OUT WITH ME.

mutan
ave to
y are n
e same
not ap
ed in

"AND THE MUTANTS OF THE WORLD HAVE TO UNDERSTAND THAT THEY ARE NOT HUMAN AND THE SAME RULES OF OUR LORD DO NOT APPLY. JUST LIKE THE COLORED OF THE SIXTIES..."

COLOREDS?

"THEY KNOW THAT THEY ARE JUST LIKE THE ANIMALS."

COLOREDS? WHAT FUCKING *PLANET* AM I ON? WHAT *YEAR* IS THIS?

"AND THE OTHER PEOPLE WHO..."

THIS IS THE KIND OF MAIL YOU GET?

YES, MA'AM.

DO YOU KNOW WHO IT'S FROM?

OH SURE, IT'S SIGNED.

THE WOMAN IS SEVENTY-SIX YEARS OLD SO I THINK YOU CAN RULE HER OUT AS A SUSPECT.

I JUST THOUGHT YOU'D LIKE A CLEAR PICTURE OF WHAT YOU ARE DEALING WITH HERE.

THEY ARE MOSTLY GOOD PEOPLE, BUT...

UH, CAN I APOLOGIZE FOR THE WAY I TALKED TO YOU YESTERDAY?

THAT'S NOT --

NO, NO. I MADE A -- A WHAT? A STEREOTYPICAL --

I SEEM TO HAVE DEVELOPED AN ALLERGIC REACTION TO REPORTERS AND I'M SORRY.

WELL, I WAS JUST TRYING TO HELP.

I WANT THIS TO BE OVER AND --

YES.

SO, I TAKE IT YOU ALREADY WENT AND VISITED OUR FIRST UNITY CHURCH OF HYPOCRISY AND RACISM.

I COULDN'T *BELIEVE* WHAT I WAS HEARING.

I ALMOST -- I SWEAR TO GOD I ALMOST POPPED HIM ONE ON THE NOSE.

HE'S A FUCKING ASSHOLE.

AND I ALREADY TALKED TO HIM ABOUT ALL THIS -- BUT HE PRETENDS THAT THE OPPOSING VIEW IS SOME SILLY --

OH, I KNOW --

AND WHAT KILLS ME IS -- THE TOWN? THEY FUCKING LOVE HIM.

THE CHURCH WILL BE PACKED TOMORROW, PACKED TO THE GILLS.

SO I'M GOING TO ASK YOU FLAT OUT --

YOU THINK HE HAS SOMETHING TO DO WITH REBECCA CROSS'S DISAPPEARANCE?

HIM *DIRECTLY*? NO.

BUT -- BUT HE PREACHES HIS BULLSHIT.

HE PREACHES HIS TABLOID VERSION OF REALITY.

HE'S GIVING THEM AN EXCUSE -- A REASON TO ACT ON THEIR WORST INSTINCTS.

COUPLE OF SUMMERS AGO THIS ONE KID --

JUST A NICE LITTLE KID --

BUT ALL OF A SUDDEN THERE WAS A RUMOR OR SOMETHING THAT HE HAD FALLEN OUT OF A TREEHOUSE AND NOT BROKEN ANY BONES OR CUT HIMSELF.

A FLUKE? WHO KNOWS.

REGARDLESS -- A WEEK LATER -- HE WAS FOUND BEATEN ALMOST TO DEATH IN A SCHOOLYARD.

SMACKED WITH BEER BOTTLES.

WITH BEER BOTTLES.

NO ONE -- *PUBLICLY* -- NO ONE TALKED ABOUT WHAT IT WAS *REALLY* ABOUT. LIKE IT DIDN'T HAPPEN. NO ONE TALKED ABOUT IT AT ALL.

THE ENTIRE FAMILY UP AND LEFT IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT -- NEVER HEARD FROM AGAIN...

KID DIES IN THE HOSPITAL.

ALONE.

THEY LEFT THE KID TO DIE.

THIS SHIT WITH THE GIRL, IT WAS *BOUND* TO HAPPEN...

SO YOU HEARD THE 'REBECCA IS A MUTANT' STUFF?

SHE'S NOT.

COULD BE. ITS NOT AS --

SHE'S NOT.

NO, NOT...

NO.

I'VE TRIED TO CRACK THE CASE MYSELF, YOU KNOW -- FOR THE PAPER.

PLUS, THE SHERIFF IS ABSOLUTELY GOOD-FOR-NOTHING...

AND THE PARENTS WON'T COOPERATE WITH ME AND EVERYONE HAS THEIR COCKAMAMIE THEORIES.

I LOOKED INTO THE MUTANT THING -- THE KIDS ARE FULL OF SHIT.

YOU KNEW HER?

I REALLY DON'T THINK SHE WAS A MUTANT EITHER... BUT CLEARLY SHE WAS ***TELLING*** PEOPLE SHE WAS.

THINK THE FIB BIT HER IN THE ASS.

HMMM... NO.

THAT DOESN'T -- THE OTHER KIDS.

IT WAS HER CLASSMATES SPREADING RUMORS. I TALKED TO THEM.

YOU KNOW HOW IT IS: SHE DRESSED DIFFERENT -- SHE BEHAVED DIFFERENT.

IT'S THE OTHER KIDS WHO ARE SPREADING THAT AROUND. BECAUSE WHY WOULD A GIRL...?

IN HIGH SCHOOL... I TOLD PEOPLE THAT WHEN I WAS ON VACATION WITH MY FAMILY, I MADE OUT WITH SIMON LE BON FROM DURAN DURAN.

TEENAGE GIRLS.

TRUE.

PLUS THERE'S THESE...

AMERICA

nonfiction is so bizarre—

—that it seems like fiction.

PUNISHER

WHAT IS THIS WE'RE LOOKING AT?

WAS IN HER ROOM. SEE?

SHE DREW THESE. SHE WROTE THESE. THESE NOTEBOOKS.

TSSK...

WHAT?

I -- I KNOW THIS SOUNDS AWFUL BUT... DOESN'T IT SEEM MUCH WORSE TO THINK THAT SOMETHING BAD HAPPENED TO SOMEONE WITH TALENT?

SHE DEFINITELY HAD A THING FOR THE DARK SIDE OF -- OF THE ICONS.

(OR WHATEVER YOU CALL THEM.)

WHAT DO YOU CALL THEM?

I STILL HAVE TO TALK TO THE FATHER.

HALF THE TOWN THINKS HE DID IT.

I DON'T.

I DON'T EITHER.

BUT A *LOT* OF PEOPLE THINK HE DID.

WHAT DO *YOU* THINK?

I THINK ONE OR MORE OF HER CLASSMATES THOUGHT IT WAS OKAY TO RAPE AND KILL HER AND THROW HER IN LAKE GOODING...

...BECAUSE THEY *THOUGHT* SHE WAS A MUTANT.

LOOK AT THIS -- THAT IDIOT *"THE PUNISHER."*

THESE WERE IN HER ROOM?

YEAH.

HER PARENTS WOULDN'T GIVE ME ACCESS TO THESE. THEY DON'T LIKE ME.

I WONDER IF -- DO YOU THINK THERE MIGHT BE A HIDDEN MESSAGE IN THEM?

MAYBE...

I WONDER IF SHE POINTS THE FINGER HERE...

MAYBE...

WISH THE PARENTS WOULD HAVE TRUSTED ME MORE...

AMERICA

nonfiction is so bizarre that it seems like fiction.

PUNISHER

LOVE ME

you are afraid and

watchin

THEY PROBABLY DON'T LIKE BEING REMINDED OF THEIR DAUGHTER'S SITUATION -- SEEING THEIR DAUGHTER IN YOUR PAPER.

BUT IT'S NEWS.

MR. CROSS?

MR. CROSS, IT'S JESSICA JONES.

CAN WE HAVE THAT TALK NOW?

LET'S GO TO THE PHONES AND SEE WHAT AMERICA HAS TO SAY...

SPOKANE, WASHINGTON! YOU'RE ON THE AIR.

YES, HI. UM -- I WAS WONDERING WHAT YOU THOUGHT OF THE WHOLE MATT MURDOCK SITUATION?

WHAT SITUATION IS THAT, MA'AM?

THE --

OH, THIS YOUNG LADY IS TALKING ABOUT THE LAWYER IN NEW YORK CITY THAT THE TABLOIDS HAVE OUTTED AS THAT DAREDEVIL FELLOW.

THAT'S RIGHT.

I THINK IT'S TERRIBLE. I THINK IT --

WELL, A LOT OF PEOPLE DON'T KNOW THIS BUT, THIS HAS HAPPENED BEFORE. THIS STORY HAS COME OUT BEFORE. BUT THIS MURDOCK GUY INSISTS IT'S NOT TRUE.

WELL, FOR THE RECORD, WE HAVE TO SAY THAT MR. MURDOCK SAYS IT IS **NOT** TRUE.

YES. BECAUSE WE CERTAINLY DON'T NEED ANY HUGE LAWSUITS SLAPPED ON THIS SHOW AS WELL.

HA! EXACTLY. BUT WHETHER IT'S TRUE OR NOT IS HARDLY THE POINT.

THE POINT IS THAT OUTTING A MAN LIKE THIS -- I JUST DON'T SEE WHAT PURPOSE IT SERVES.

WHY DO WE AS A SOCIETY HAVE THIS COMPULSIVE NEED TO HURT THOSE WHO WOULD PROTECT US?

YES, BUT IF IT **IS** TRUE, THEN --

IT DOESN'T MATTER IF IT'S TRUE.

WHAT MATTERS IS THAT WE HAVE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO LOOK AT OURSELVES AND ASK: WHY DO WE SO BADLY NEED TO DESTROY PEOPLE WHO WOULD BE OUR HEROES?

LAGO

THAT'S NOT FUNNY...

KID...

WHERE IS SHE?

INVOICE NUMBER: [redacted]

ISSUE #14

SO DAREDEVIL IS A GUY NAMED MATT MURDOCK.

WELL, THAT'S WHAT THE TABLOIDS ARE SAYING --

BUT I THINK WE ALL KNOW BY NOW THAT THE TABLOIDS ARE ALWAYS -- ***ALWAYS*** RIGHT.

(WELL, EXCEPT FOR THAT ONE WHERE THE PRESIDENT IS MEETING ALIENS...)

THE TABLOIDS SAY DAREDEVIL IS REALLY THIS RED-HAIRED, FAIR-SKINNED --

HE'S -- HE'S JUST A ***BEAUTIFUL*** MAN.

AND I KNEW HE WOULD BE.

I ***KNEW*** IT.

THEY SAY HE'S A LAWYER.

AND THAT HIS TWO WORLDS -- HIS ***LAWYER*** WORLD AND HIS ***VIGILANTE*** WORLD MIX INTO THIS ENTIRELY DARK, MORALLY SCREWED UP... THING.

AND -- AND I CAN'T HELP MYSELF, BUT I AM, LIKE, MORE IN LOVE WITH THE GUY NOW THAN WHEN I DIDN'T KNOW A THING ABOUT HIM.

AND I KNOW THE WORD LOVE MAKES ME SOUND LIKE THE SILLY SIXTEEN-YEAR-OLD THAT, WELL, THAT I AM.

BUT I DON'T MEAN *"LOVE"* HIM LIKE I WANT TO FUCK HIM. THAT'S -- NO.

WHAT I MEAN IS THAT I LOVE HIM FOR REPRESENTING SOMETHING SO MORALLY AMBIGUOUS.

EVERY-FUCKING-THING THAT *"THEY"* SELL US -- THEY TRY TO MAKE IT ALL IN -- IN -- IN ***ABSOLUTES.***

GOOD VS. EVIL, RIGHT VS. WRONG AND WE KNOW IT'S BULLSHIT, RIGHT?

I MEAN, HOW MANY ***PEOPLE*** OR ***THINGS*** IN YOUR LIFE CAN YOU POINT AT AND SAY ***THIS*** ONE WORD IS A PERFECT ***LABEL*** FOR THAT ***THING?***

'CAUSE I HAVE NEVER ONCE BEEN ABLE TO DO THAT -- BUT *"THEY"* DO IT FOR US ALL THE TIME.

PRETTY. UGLY. GOOD. BAD. THIN. FAT.

IT'S ALL SUCH FUCKING BULLSHIT, AND NOW HERE COMES THIS -- THIS MAN...

...THIS BEAUTIFUL MAN WHO SO CLEARLY DEFINES SOMETHING *UNDEFINABLE.*

SO, I -- *UH* --

I WROTE A POEM ABOUT HIM AND I WANT TO READ IT FOR YOU...

BLACK PUDDLES DISTURB A MOONDANCE...

A DARK KNIGHT COWL LOOMS WAITS IN A SHADOWDANCE...

OH MY GOD! REBS! THAT WAS AWESOME!

NO, IT WASN'T.

SHUT UP!

THANK YOU.

YOU DID IT.

FUCK -- YOU FOUND ME!!

NO, WAIT -- COME ON!
HEY!!
THE HELL?
HEY!! YOU CAN'T JUST COME IN HERE AND --
AAGGHH!!
THIS GIRL IS A RUNAWAY MINOR -- HER PARENTS HIRED ME TO FIND HER AND BRING HER HOME.
I DON'T GIVE TWO SHITS -- LET GO, YOU CUNTWIPE!
AAGGFF!!
CLEARLY YOU HEARD HER.
EXIT
LET -- GO.
CAN I ASK YOU A QUESTION?
WHAT?
HAVE YOU EVER BEEN KICKED IN THE NUTS BY A SUPER HERO?
WHAT?

OOOGGGHHH!

WHUMP

SCREEEE

AUG 1-5

UGH LINES

NEW YORK

K11 5IX

I COULD JUST JUMP OUT OF THIS CAR.

I COULD.

DO YOU EVEN WANT TO *HEAR* MY SIDE OF IT?

YOU'RE A SIXTEEN-YEAR-OLD GIRL WHO RAN AWAY FROM HOME. YOUR MOTHER HIRED ME TO FIND WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU.

THAT'S THE ONLY SIDE OF IT I NEED.

THIS IS SUCH *SHIT*, MAN!

HEY, LET ME ASK YOU -- YOU EVER HEAR THIS ONE?

HOW MANY MUTANTS DOES IT TAKE TO SCREW IN A LIGHTBULB?

I'VE HEARD IT.

OF *COURSE* YOU DID!

YOU WOULD HAVE *HAD* TO IF YOU SPENT MORE THAN AN HOUR IN THAT RACIST SHITHELLHOLE I WAS FORCED TO LIVE IN!

YOU HEAR THE *SHIT* THAT COMES OUT OF THOSE FUCKERS' MOUTHS? THOSE *RACIST* --

I HAVE TO *SIT* THERE IN CLASS AND LISTEN TO THE TEACHERS AND THE OTHER FUCKING ASSHOLES IN MY CLASS...

WHERE DO YOU LIVE? NEW YORK CITY? WELL, THEN YOU *KNOW* THE WORLD ISN'T LIKE THAT. NOT AT ALL.

BUT SEE, I *DIDN'T* KNOW THAT.

I ACTUALLY THOUGHT I WAS, LIKE, *NUTS* BECAUSE I HAD MY OWN IDEAS AND THOUGHTS AND, LIKE, A DESIRE TO -- TO -- TO *EXPRESS* MYSELF.

I DON'T GIVE A SHIT ABOUT *PROM* OR *VIDEOS* OR THE FUCKING *MALL.*

AND I DON'T THINK THERE'S ANYTHING WRONG WITH BEING A *MUTANT,* OR *JEWISH* OR *BLACK* OR ANYTHING *ELSE.*

AND EVERY *DAY* I SIT THERE AND I LISTEN TO THESE *IDIOTS* JUST FEED INTO EACH OTHER'S WHATEVER AND IT WAS DRIVING ME *INSANE!*

AND ONE DAY -- ONE DAY I GOT ALL GOOD AND PISSED OFF AND I GOT ON A BUS.

JUST TOOK A BUS OVER TO THE NEXT TOWN --

JUST TO -- I DON'T KNOW -- GET A BREATHER FROM MY LIFE.

AND ALL OF A SUDDEN I MEET ALL THESE COOL PEOPLE WHO *DON'T* HAVE ALL THESE HANG-UPS ABOUT ANY OF THAT SHIT AND IT WAS SUCH A FUCKING --

SUCH A FUCKING --

IT WAS LIKE I WAS IN A *COMA* AND NOW I *WASN'T.*

BECAUSE I COULD *KISS* WHOEVER I WANT.

I COULD *TALK* ABOUT WHATEVER I WANT.

I COULD EXPRESS MYSELF WITHOUT SOMEONE MAKING FUN OF ME OR ASKING ME WHAT'S *WRONG* WITH ME.

SO YEAH -- I UP AND LEFT IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT AND THAT'S THAT.

AND YOU KNOW WHAT? THE SECOND *YOU* LEAVE... I AM GOING TO UP AND DO IT AGAIN.

I'M IN LOVE, MAN.

AND I FOUND SOMETHING THAT I *LIKE* TO DO.

AND I'M NOT GOING TO SIT THERE IN CLASS LEARNING NOTHING IN THIS FUCKING HELLHOLE AND *BIDE MY TIME* --

OH YEAH, I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE GOING TO SAY -- YOU'RE GOING TO TELL ME THAT I'M ONLY SIXTEEN AND I HAVE TO SIT TIGHT AND *"BIDE MY TIME"* AND *THEN* WHEN I AM EIGHTEEN I CAN DO WHATEVER THE FUCK I WANT.

WELL YOU KNOW *WHAT? FUCK* THAT! *FUCK* YOU! AND *FUCK* THAT BECAUSE LIFE IS *TOO* SHORT, MAN!

LIFE IS TOO FUCKING SHORT TO LIVE IN A TOWN LIKE THAT WITH PEOPLE LIKE *THAT.*

WHAT HAPPENS IF I GET HIT BY A BUS TOMORROW?

I GOTTA SAY *THAT'S* HOW I LIVED MY LIFE? SURROUNDED BY RACIST FUCKING ASSHOLES?

FUCK YOU, MAN. I'M NOT DOING IT.

PEOPLE HAVE BEEN WORRIED SICK ABOUT YOU...

I KNOW! LET 'EM!

YOU THINK I DON'T KNOW -- YOU THINK I DON'T GET REPORTS AND SHIT?

FIRST OFF, MY MOM IS A LYING *BITCH* WHO'S NEVER HOME BECAUSE SHE IS OUT DOING GOD-KNOWS-WHAT.

AND I KNOW MY DAD LOVES ME BUT GOD FUCKING *DAMMIT!* HE'S JUST SO -- SO WEAK IT MAKES ME *SICK.*

HE HAS ALL THIS STUFF HE COULD DO AND HE JUST SITS THERE AND BUYS THOSE SHITTY TAPES OFF THE TV AND NEVER DOES *ANYTHING!*

HE NEVER SPEAKS HIS MIND!

IT'S LIKE THIRTY YEARS AGO SOMEONE TOLD HIM TO SHUT THE FUCK UP AND HE *DID...* AND THAT'S IT.

AND YOU THINK I GIVE A *SHIT* ABOUT THE REST OF THOSE ASSHOLES?

LET THEM WONDER WHERE THE FUCK I AM OR WHAT THE FUCK HAPPENED AND MAYBE ONE OF THEM WILL RETHINK THEIR POSITIONS IN LIFE.

MAYBE JUST ONE OF THEM WILL CRAWL *OVER* THE WALL OF *ASSHOLES* AND SEE THAT THERE IS SO, SO, SO MUCH MORE TO LIFE.

LIKE MY NEIGHBOR KID LENNY --

(AND YEAH -- I KNOW THAT'S HOW YOU FOUND ME, I KNOW HE TOLD YOU WHERE I WENT.)

I LOVE THAT LITTLE KID AND THE ONLY REASON I WANTED HIM TO KNOW WHAT I WAS DOING IS HE'S THE ONLY PERSON IN THAT ENTIRE *CITY* I DIDN'T WANT TO WORRY --

BUT NOW, OBVIOUSLY, I KNOW THAT IF I WOULD'VE KEPT MY FUCKING MOUTH SHUT YOU'D STILL THINK I WAS DEAD IN A DITCH SOMEWHERE.

AND I WOULDN'T HAVE TO DEAL WITH THIS DRAMA.

AND YOU KNOW I'M RIGHT.

BLEE BLEE BLEE

BLEE BLEE BLEE

SO, YOU REALLY A SUPER HE--?

HELLO?

JESSICA, THIS IS MATT MURDOCK.

HEY, MATT.

WHERE ARE YOU NOW? ARE YOU IN THE CITY?

I WILL BE TOMORROW. WHY? WHAT'S UP?

I NEED YOUR SERVICES. CAN YOU COME BY IN THE MORNING?

LATE MORNING?

HOW'S TEN?

UGH -- I GUESS.

THANKS.

HOW YOU HOLDING UP?

YOU KNOW -- WITH THE STUFF.

WE'LL -- UH -- WE'LL TALK ABOUT IT TOMORROW.

YOU GOT IT.

OH MY GOD!

OH MY GOD! THAT -- THAT -- THAT -- !

...THAT...

...OH...

REBECCA,
PLEASE COME
HOME.
WE LOVE YOU

ARE YOU BEING ARRESTED FOR THE MURDER OF YOUR SISTER'S HUSBAND?
HAVE YOU CONFESSED?
COME ON, PATRICIA...
DID YOU CONFESS, OR DID --?
PATRICIA, NOT NOW. THERE'S A TIME AND A PLACE.
SHUT UP, SEAN. LET ME DO MY JOB.
I MEAN IT, I--
MRS. CROSS, DO YOU KNOW WHY YOUR SISTER KILLED YOUR HUSBAND AND WAS IT BECAUSE OF --
OH, HEY, THAT JONES WOMAN IS BACK.
OH NO...
OH NO...

HEY -- WAIT! WHAT IS THIS?! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

WHAT'S GOING ON?

W-WHY ARE YOU ARRESTING MY AUNT?

REBECCA?

MOM, WHAT ARE THEY --?

HE'S DEAD! DEAD!!

AND IT'S ALL YOUR FAULT!

IT'S ALL YOUR FAULT, YOU SELFISH WHORE!

LOOK AT YOU, YOU WHORE!!

DO YOU SEE WHAT YOU'VE DONE? DO YOU?! DO YOU??!!

DON'T --

WHY -- WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME MY DAD WAS DEAD?

WHY DID YOU LET ME GO ON LIKE THAT?

I-I'M SORRY. I DIDN'T KNOW IF YOU WERE THE ONE WHO --

THAT'S RIGHT! RUN AWAY AGAIN! SEE WHO YOU KILL THIS TIME!

I KINDA GOT MY HANDS FULL.

I GOT IT.

SNIFF...

UUGH...

FUCK...

YOU DIDN'T KILL YOUR FATHER.

SNIFF -- YOU KNOW I DID.

NO.

YOU REALLY DIDN'T.

YOUR AUNT WIGGED OUT ON HIM. YOUR MOM AND SHE -- THEY REALLY HAD IT IN FOR HIM -- I GUESS.

HOW THE FUCK DID YOU FIND ME UP HERE? YOU GOT SOME KIND OF SUPER SENSE THING?
I READ YOUR DIARY.
YOU LIKE TO GET STONED UP HERE.
...WISH I HAD SOME NOW.
ME TOO.
I'M NOT GOING TO KILL MYSELF.
GOOD.
UGHUGH... OH GOD!
MY DADDY... SNIFF...
YOU'RE A REALLY TALENTED GIRL, REBECCA.
PLEASE DON'T...
I KNOW YOU DON'T WANT TO HEAR FROM A TOTAL STRANGER RIGHT NOW -- BUT YOU'RE A VERY TALENTED GIRL.
AND -- AND I HAVE A WRITER FRIEND WHO TOLD ME ONCE: NOTHING MAKES A WRITER... THAN A FUCKED UP CHILDHOOD.
SO...
WHAT THE FUCK KIND OF SUPER HERO ARE YOU?
WHY IS THE WORLD LIKE THIS?

WELL, IT JUST IS...

BUT WHEN I LEAVE HERE ALL OF THIS WILL KIND OF DISAPPEAR.

WHAT?

WHAT I MEAN IS --

I --

THINGS -- LIKE THE SONG SAYS -- ALL THINGS EVENTUALLY FADE TO MEMORY.

THAT'S ALL I MEANT.

IF YOU WANT -- I'LL TAKE YOU BACK TO YOUR GIRLFRIEND...

WHERE YOU BEEN?

I WAS GOING TO TAKE THE GIRL BACK TO HER GIRLFRIEND -- BUT HER GIRLFRIEND WAS ALREADY HERE LOOKING FOR HER.

IT WAS SWEET.

WHAT IS THIS?

IT'S YOUR CHECK.

THE MOTHER PAID ME?

WELL, I KIND OF MADE HER.

HUH, THANKS.

I'D CASH IT FAST.

ALRIGHT, WELL, I KINDA GOTTA GET BACK. GOT MY HANDS FULL AND ALL.

THE FATHER IS AN OPEN AND SHUT.

YEAH -- HE MOUTHED OFF TO THE SISTER, THE SISTER WAS DRUNK AND SHE WIGGED OUT AND STABBED HIM. SHE CONFESSED AND EVERYTHING -- IT'S DONE.

I JUST HAVE A SHIT-LOAD OF PAPERWORK.

TSSK -- THE POOR GUY.

WILL YOU GIVE THESE BOOKS TO HER MOM? I FORGOT THEM WHEN I WAS WITH THE GIRL...

SORRY THIS GOT ALL SHITTY...

YEAH.

TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF.

YOU TOO.

BLEE BLEE BLEE

JESSICA?

YEAH?

Lang. Scott
212-555-3133

IT'S SCOTT LANG. DID I CALL AT A BAD TIME?

I JUST HAD A -- KINDA HAD A BAD NIGHT.

YOU ALRIGHT?

A CASE I WAS WORKING -- IT ENDED SHITTY AND I'M JUST ON MY WAY BACK TO THE CITY.

YOU WANT I'LL CALL YOU TOMORROW?

UH --

IF YOU WANT YOU CAN KEEP ME COMPANY AS I DRIVE HOME?

OK -- UH -- SURE.

COME BACK SOON

TELL ME SOMETHING FUNNY.

COME BACK SOON

ISSUE #15

LAW OFFICES OF [redacted] & M[redacted]

LAW OFFICES OF NELSON AND MURDOCK.

MR. MURDOCK IS EXPECTING YOU.

OH...

UH... HI.

HEY, BABE...

"HEY, BABE --"?

WHAT?

THAT WAS SOME BODYGUARDING YOU JUST DID RIGHT THERE -- MR. HERO FOR HIRE.

WHAT?

WE'RE JUST LETTING STRANGE WOMEN WALK RIGHT INTO MATT'S OFFICE?

THAT WAS NOT A STRANGE WOMAN -- THAT WAS NATASHA ROMANOV -- A.K.A. THE BLACK WIDOW.

I THOUGHT SHE HAD *RED* HAIR.

SHE DOES.

I BELIEVE THAT IS SUPPOSED TO BE A DISGUISE.

(CHEAP-ASS SAD DISGUISE, BUT WHATEVER.)

STILL, WE SHOULD HAVE STOPPED HER.

SO GO ON IN THERE AND DO WHATEVER IT IS THAT YOU DO.

THAT'S RIGHT.

'CAUSE SHE COULD WUP YOUR ASS.

STOP.

CHICKEN.

SO, WE TALKIN' NOW OR WHAT?

I DON'T UNDERSTAND YOU.

WHY'D YOU TAKE THIS JOB IF YOU'RE SO FUCKING PISSED AT ME?

CLEARLY, I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE GOING TO BE HERE.

YOU FUCKED ME.

I'M SORRY?

YOU HEARD ME.

YOU -- FUCKED -- ME.

YOU CAME TO MY BAR. THAT NIGHT -- *YOU* CAME TO *MY* BAR. *YOU* GOT HAMMERED. *YOU* HIT ON ME. *YOU* POUNCED ON ME. *YOU* PHYSICALLY GRABBED IT AND PUT --

LITTLE INAPPROPRIATE PLACE TO BE HAVING THIS CONVERSATION, DON'T YOU THINK?

I WAS DRUNK.

YOU'RE A BIG GIRL.

YOU HIT ON ME, YOU FUCKED ME.

THEN, THE WEEK AFTER, YOU CAME BY MY HOUSE AT THREE IN THE MORNING WITHOUT CALLING...

AND EVEN THOUGH YOU ALMOST BURNED MY ENTIRE LIFE DOWN BY DOING SO -- I STILL GOT MURDOCK TO HELP YOU OUT OF THE CLUSTERFUCK YOU MADE OF YOUR LIFE.

AND YOU KNOW WHAT YOU DID AFTER THAT?

WELL, I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU DID THEN --

BUT I KNOW IT SURE AS FUCK WASN'T ***THANKING*** ME FOR ***BEING*** THERE FOR YOU WHEN YOU NEEDED ME.

TWO ADULTS.

ADULT.

ADULT.

BOTH ADULTS.

ADULT.

DO YOU WANT TO BE MY GIRLFRIEND?

WHAT? *NO!*

YOU *DON'T* WANT TO BE MY GIRLFRIEND?

NO.

BIG ADULT.

AND WHO WAS THAT IN YOUR APARTMENT THAT NIGHT WHEN I CAME BY?

DO YOU WANT TO GET MARRIED?

HELL, NO!

THEN IT'S NONE OF YOUR FUCKING BUSINESS WHO WAS IN MY BED.

SEE?

YOU HIT ON *ME.*

YEAH, WELL, THAT WAS BEFORE I KNEW YOU WERE A CAPE CHASER.

A WHAT?

OH, YOU HEARD ME.

"A CAPE CHASER?"

GUY WHO LIKES TO FUCK GIRLS IN -- GIRLS WITH -- GIRLS WHO --

HAHAHAHAHA ARE YOU FUCKING KIDDING ME WITH THIS SHIT?

I HEARD ALL ABOUT YOU AND YOUR LITTLE *FETISH.*

FETISH?

SHE-HULK? I MEAN, COME ON.

WHAT DOES THAT HAVE TO DO WITH THE --

IT'S GROSS.

WELL, YOU OBVIOUSLY NEVER FUCKED HER.

I HATE WHEN YOU TALK LIKE THAT.

SO I'M A CAPE CHASER. SURE. RIGHT.

WHO TOLD YOU THAT? WAS THAT -- THAT CAROL DANVERS CRAZY PERSON?

SOME FRIEND.

IF I WAS A -- IF I WAS A ***LAWYER***, I WOULD PROBABLY END UP FUCKING A LOT OF ***LAWYERS.***

BUT BEING IN ***OUR*** PROFESSION -- I AM PROBABLY GOING TO END UP FUCKING A LOT OF PEOPLE -- IN ***OUR*** PROFESSION.

FUCKING BUNCH OF SHIT I HAVE TO LISTEN TO.

YOU'RE ANGRY AT YOU, GIRL -- NOT ME.

(I HATE THIS SHIT.)

JUST TRYING TO BE YOUR FRIEND.

SHIT.

...SORRY.

A'IGHT.

AND THANKS FOR HELPING ME WITH THAT CLUSTERFUCK THING I HAD.

NEXT YOU'RE GOING TO TELL ME I FUCKED IRON FIST.

I HEARD YOU ***DID.***

YOU KNOW WHY THEY ***CALL*** HIM --

YEAAAAH -- I KNEW YOU WERE GOING TO MAKE THAT JOKE.

HEY, YOU THINK IT'S TRUE?

WHAT?

THE SHIT WITH MATT BEING DAREDEVIL...

OH YEAH.

HUH.

SO THEN HE JUST HEARD THIS WHOLE CONVERSATION WE JUST HAD.

HMMM... GUESS SO.

ARROGANT...

YOU WANNA GET DINNER TONIGHT?

I HAVE PLANS.

LIAR.

I DO.

A DATE?

MAYBE.

WHO?

QUIET, I'M WORKING.

SCOTT LANG?

JESSICA!

I AM SO, SO SORRY.

WELL, I HOPE YOU HAVE A GOOD EXCUSE, YOUNG LADY.

THIS JOB I AM ON -- IT'S JUST FUCKING CRAZY AND --

YOU WORKIN' A BIG CASE?

WELL, I'M... (IT'S NO SECRET -- MY PICTURE WAS IN THE FUCKING PAPER).

I'M DOING A LITTLE BODYGUARDING WORK FOR MATT MURDOCK, THE ATTORNEY.

OH YEAH, I HEARD ABOUT THAT.

THAT POOR GUY.

I KNOW, IT SUCKS.

IS HE REALLY DAREDEVIL?

DOES IT MATTER?

GUESS NOT.

BECAUSE, YOU KNOW, EITHER WAY: FUCKING TABLOIDS HAD NO BUSINESS...

TRUE.

YOU BODYGUARD?
NOT OFTEN. BUT FOR MATT...
SURE.
HE GOT ME OUT OF A SHITSTORM NOT TOO LONG AGO.
I THINK I HEARD SOMETHING ABOUT THAT.
YOU DID?
A LITTLE SOMETHING. I HAVE AVENGERS STATUS SO, YOU KNOW...
DID YOU ORDER?
I DID NOT. THAT WOULD BE VERY UNLADYLIKE OF ME.
WELL, DINNER IS MY TREAT. THERE WAS NO REASON YOU HAD TO SIT HERE. I FEEL JUST --
IT'S OKAY. IT'S A NICE NIGHT.
HI, I'M JULIE. I'LL BE YOUR WAITRESS THIS EVENING.
HI, JULIE. I'LL HAVE A DOUBLE VODKA ON THE ROCKS AND --
UM --
WHAT?
HOW ABOUT YOU DON'T.
...I'M SORRY?

I WAS HOPING WE COULD *NOT* DRINK TONIGHT.

UM...

IF THAT'S OKAY.

UM...

I'LL HAVE A COKE.

I'LL -- *UH* -- I'LL HAVE A SPRITE -- I GUESS.

BUT DON'T GO TOO FAR.

I'M SORRY. I JUST -- CAROL TOLD ME YOU HAVE A TENDENCY TO DRINK AND THEN BE MAD AT YOURSELF ABOUT IT AFTERWARDS...

...AND I THOUGHT THIS BEING OUR FIRST DATE, AND A BLIND DATE, AND LIFE BEING TOO SHORT AND ALL THAT MAYBE WE COULD *UH* -- ***NOT*** DRINK AND HAVE A NICE, REAL, GENUINE CONVERSATION.

YOU'RE MAD.

NO, I'M STUNNED.

THIS IS STUNNED.

IF YOU WANT A DRINK, HAVE A DRINK.

I -- CLEARLY I OVERSTEPPED MY --

NO, WE CAN DO IT THIS WAY.

CAROL WASN'T TALKING BEHIND YOUR BACK.

OOOOH, YES SHE WAS.

NO, REALLY.

IT'S OKAY.
CLEARLY, WHATEVER SHE SAID WASN'T BAD ENOUGH TO KEEP YOU FROM GOING OUT WITH ME, SO...
WELL, I WASN'T SNOOPING AROUND ON YOU OR ANYTHING.
NO, OF COURSE NOT. SO... YOU WERE IN PRISON?
PRIVATE INVESTIGATOR, RIGHT HERE.
PROFESSIONAL SNOOP PROFESSIONALLY.
YOU CHECKED UP ON ME?
'COURSE.
AS YOU SAID, LIFE'S TOO SHORT.
SO WHAT? WAS THIS BEFORE OR AFTER YOU WERE ONE OF THE ANT-MANS?
I THINK I NEED A DRINK.
HA!
I WAS YOUNG.
I DID SOMETHING INSANELY STUPID.
AND I PAID THE PRICE FOR IT.
REHABILITATED, ARE YOU?
I LEFT A BETTER PERSON THAN WHEN I WENT IN AND I NEVER WENT BACK.
AND I NEVER WILL.

DIDN'T MEAN TO PUT YOU ON THE SPOT.

NO, I UNDERSTAND.

MY LIFE -- SEE, MY LIFE HAS A BIT OF --

WELL, I CERTAINLY CAN'T CLAIM THAT I ENVISIONED MY LIFE TAKING THE DETOURS THAT IT HAS. CAN'T SAY THAT.

I SHOULDN'T HAVE JUST GOT IN YOUR FACE WITH IT. I WAS TRYING TO BE INTRIGUING AND A SMART ASS AND IT BACKFIRED.

AGAIN.

BUT TO BE HONEST -- WHEN I WAS DOING A BACKGROUND CHECK ON YOU, I'M THINKING I'LL BE LOOKING INTO THIS ANT-MAN: SUPER HERO HISTORY -- AND THEN I SEE YOU DID TIME. YOU COULD SEE WHERE...

SURE. AND THEN THERE'S MY DIVORCE.

WELL, ACTUALLY I *LIKE* THAT YOU'RE DIVORCED.

YOU DO?

OH YEAH, DIVORCED MEN ARE THE BEST BOYFRIENDS. EAGER TO PLEASE. TONS OF SHIT TO PROVE.

HA! OH, REALLY?

OH... REALLY.

WELL, WE'LL ***SEE.***

WILL WE?

WHAT?

I WAS JUST WONDERING -- I WONDER WHY CAROL THOUGHT TO SET US UP.

NO, I DON'T MEAN IT LIKE THAT.

I MEAN -- I WONDER WHAT SHE WAS THINKING OF *SPECIFICALLY.*

WELL, I'M INCLINED TO SAY THAT IT'S THE WHOLE NOT *"ENVISIONING YOUR LIFE TAKING THE DETOURS IT HAS"* THING.

(IT WOULD BE NICE IF THAT *WAS* IT --)

BUT I KNOW THAT, REALLY, IT'S THAT YOU LOOK LIKE SOMEONE *SHE* WOULD SLEEP WITH.

I DO?

YES. SHE HAS, WHAT YOU WOULD CALL, VERY SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS FOR A GUY -- IN BOTH THE LOOKS AND OCCUPATION DEPARTMENT.

NO MATTER HOW GREAT SOME GUY SHE MIGHT MEET IS -- IF HE DOESN'T *"LOOK"* THE WAY SHE HAS IMAGINED A BOYFRIEND OF HERS SHOULD LOOK LIKE, IT IS NOT GOING TO HAPPEN.

AND YOU ARE DEFINITELY THAT.

THEN WHY DIDN'T SHE ASK ME OUT FOR HERSELF?

WELL, YOU BEEN TO PRISON.

OH, COME ON...

OH NO! NO, NO I DON'T CARE AT ALL. I MAKE NO JUDGMENT. SWEAR.

I'M SAYING THAT'S WHAT'S ROLLING AROUND IN *CAROL'S* HEAD.

SHE IS ALL SURFACE.

WHICH IS FUNNY CONSIDERING HOW HER POWERS ARE AND THE THINGS SHE MUST HAVE SEEN AND DONE... BUT STILL.

BLONDE HAIR, PROFESSIONAL MAN. BOOM! ON PAPER YOU'RE A HOME RUN.

AH SEE? I BUMMED YOU OUT WITH THE PRISON THING... BUT I MEANT... I WAS TRYING TO COMPLIMENT YOU.

WELL, YOU SHOULD TRY AND DO BETTER THAN THAT.

OKAY. YOU'RE A VERY PATIENT AND CURIOUS MAN.

HOW SO?

BECAUSE OF HOW YOU WERE ON THE PHONE THE OTHER DAY AND YOU'RE TOLERATING *THIS* CONVERSATION.

ARE YOU KIDDING -- I AM *HYPNOTIZED* BY THIS CONVERSATION.

REALLY...

I CAN HONESTLY SAY -- I HAVE ABSOLUTELY NO IDEA WHAT YOU ARE GOING TO SAY OR DO NEXT AND THAT -- THAT IS SOMETHING.

SO, THERE YOU GO.

THERE YOU GO.

YOU'VE GOT A DAUGHTER, RIGHT?

I DO. SHE'S -- SHE'S MY REASON FOR EVERYTHING.

THAT'S NICE.

SERIOUSLY -- I'D DO ANYTHING FOR HER. DON'T KNOW WHAT MY LIFE WOULD BE LIKE WITHOUT HER.

THAT'S -- I THINK I MIGHT MAKE A GOOD MOM.

SO BE A MOM.

I SAID I *MIGHT* BE.

YOU KNOW -- I AM TOTALLY FASCINATED WITH WHAT IT IS YOU DO FOR A LIVING.

PRIVATE EYE. RAYMOND CHANDLER. PHILIP MARLOWE.

I WISH.

HATED IT IN HIGH SCHOOL. HATED IT IN COLLEGE.

AND THE BEST PART OF BEING MARRIED WAS THAT I THOUGHT I WOULD NEVER HAVE TO DO IT AGAIN.

UGH --

I HATE DATING.

SEE, I LEGITIMATELY WANT TO KNOW WHAT YOUR JOB IS LIKE.

IF YOU WERE A ***GUY***, I WOULD WANT TO KNOW WHAT IT WAS LIKE BEING A PRIVATE EYE.

BUT I FEEL LIKE EVERYTHING I AM SAYING SOUNDS FAKE.

GUARDED.

OH, I KNOW. IT'S LIKE --

ESPECIALLY IN OUR LINE OF WORK.

COSTUMES AND ADVENTURES.

IT'S IMPOSSIBLY HARD TO MEET PEOPLE YOU CAN TRUST OR RELATE TO, ISN'T IT?

AND THEN THERE'S ALSO THAT THING WHERE YOU SAY TO YOURSELF -- WHO WOULD WANT TO DATE SOMEONE WHO IS AS FUCKED UP AS SOMEONE LIKE US?

YOU'RE THE FIRST PERSON I'VE MET IN TEN YEARS WHO HASN'T ASKED ME WHY I WASN'T A SUPER HERO ANYMORE.

WELL... YOU'RE THE FIRST PERSON I HAVE MET IN TEN YEARS WHO HASN'T ASKED ME WHY I WAS A SUPER HERO.

CHEERS.

CHEERS.

SO, WHY AREN'T YOU --

HA! I KNEW YOU WERE GOING TO DO THAT!

OH, SHIT

WHAT?

OH SHIT...

FUCK!!
FUCK!!
MY CAB!

ONE WAY
ONE WAY

HUH.

YOU -- UH -- YOU WANT TO GO HELP?

I DIDN'T BRING ANY OF MY ANT-MAN STUFF.

DO *YOU* WANT TO GO?

MMMMMMMM... NAH.

THEY GOT IT.

AND I REALLY -- I DON'T DO THAT ANYMORE.

C

WHAT?

I'M NOT MAD ABOUT THE DRINK THING ANYMORE.

C

HA! I KNEW YOU WERE MAD.

OF *COURSE* I WAS MAD -- IT WAS TOTALLY RUDE.

IT WAS.

BUT...

NOT...

NOT WITHOUT...

I GUESS, I KIND OF NEEDED SOMEONE TO DO THAT FOR ME.

C

CHRISTINE

I DON'T THINK OUR WAITRESS IS COMING BACK.

DAVID MACK SKETCHBOOK INTRODUCTION

Hi,

OK. So this entire arc of *Alias* was written in my head about four seconds after I crapped out the initial idea for the series. It's hard to pinpoint exactly why this arc was so vivid and important to me, other than the sad truth that elements of it are actually based on a couple of true stories.

It also has one of those artistic conceits that I often come up with that end up just torturing everyone at Marvel. See, early on, I knew that David Mack's feminine-noir cover work would eventually bleed into a few sections of the interiors of Alias but didn't know where exactly. Not like I knew how I wanted Mark Bagley, my *Ultimate Spider-Man* collaborator, to render all *Alias* dream sequences and super-hero flashbacks.

Now I know this doesn't seem like that big a deal, but it's a logistical nightmare for my editors on a book that ships monthly.

Also, this is no slight to the powerful sublety of the immensely talented Michael Gaydos, my hand-picked first choice for *Alias* artist. Not at all. All it is is another way to find new ways to express what I think is unique about the series and the character.

I called David Mack to discuss the cover motif for this arc. I explained that the missing girl would have a painterly and poetic sketchbook/diary that would mystify Jessica. This was based on a series of collage sketchbooks one of my ex-girlfriends kept at that age. I explained to him how almost every thought this girl had would be painted or clipped into the sketchbooks, and that there was no end to them.

It was mid-conversation that we both realized that it would be very cool to see the pages of her sketchbook in the story itself. Ooh! I was a little tingly. I was excited. David and I discussed this girl's alienation to her surroundings; her obsession with the darker side, the Marvel Knights' side, of the Marvel icons; and basically what other ideas would float around her young and feisty mind.

And then David went and created an entire sketchbook for her, from scratch. An entire sketchbook! He actually created an entire multimedia sketchbook in the voice of this mystery girl.

So here in this bonus section you will find a smattering of what David did following this conversation. And it was from this sketchbook we pulled the cover images and zoomed in on what elements should be featured in the story.

But what I really wanted to do was show all of it. I just love that the sketchbook exists. I love how David accomplished it, and I wanted to bump all the video-game ads in the comic and just run it, but Joe said something about not getting paid for the issue if there weren't any ads. So, you know...

One little side note to all of this is that David Mack's incredibly kind and talented girlfriend, Anh Trahn, had a large hand in these pages, as well. She drew all over them. We both wanted them to look as femme and arty as possible, and Ahn is both those things, so we all thank her for chipping in.

BENDIS!
December, 2002

Darkly Delicious Blackcurrant
Black Raven Tea™
Net Wt. 3 oz. (85 g)
Eastern Shore Tea Co.
2.10.22
ART
PATIENCE

Did we catch you?

How can we help you

belonging (ing), *n.* that whic
property; goods (*pl.* usually).

The secret

daughter

Bavaria

"On The L

IF YOU HAD A WISH

paration

WHAT WOULD IT BE?

the best future is

the one we w into well-

MAKE IT HAPPEN

would you dare?

touch (tuch), *n.* style of striking or pressing the keys of an organ, pianoforte, or similar instrument; the resistance made to the fingers by the keys of any instrument, as, when the keys are put down with difficulty, an instrument is said to have a hard or heavy *touch;* when there is little resistance the *touch* is said to be soft or light.

face the new life ahead of us, and remember

some

disturbing

truths

the wounded child inside, and then all the subsequent steps fitted in after that. [My character] is desperate to be loved, who is desperate to love, desperate to be needed, to have a role, to be seen and admired and I think that the wounded child inside has turned into a screaming psychopath because those wounds have never been addressed.

nucleus has no nucleus.

Empty

you forget yourself."

PUNISHER

LOVE ME

A LIFE IN PICTURES

FEELINGS

I love

Where do artificial atoms come f

Help!

Follow Me

s

t

FORGET

Listen

tell you the truth

Feel

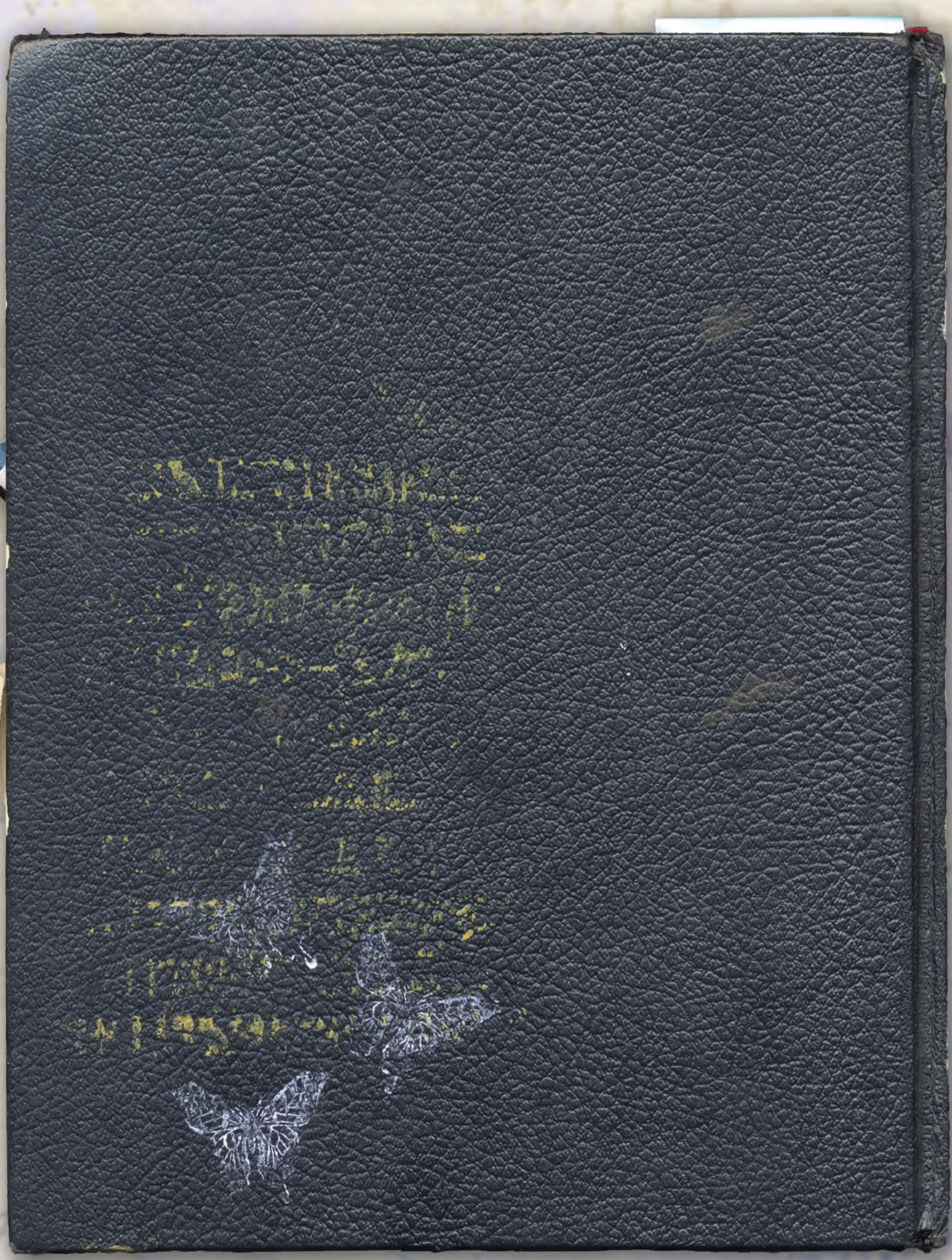
Dictionary of Me

Youll

never

ting

THE END



All she ever wanted was to be a super hero.

The adventures of Avenger-turned-private eye Jessica Jones continue with two new cases. In "Rebecca, Come Home," Jessica travels to upstate New York to investigate the disappearance of a teenage girl rumored to be a mutant in a prejudiced small town. And in "Raining Men," the hard-luck PI goes on a date with ... the Astonishing Ant-Man?!

MARVEL

EXPLICIT CONTENT

Collecting *Alias* #11-15,
written by Brian Michael Bendis
and illustrated by Michael Gaydos.

ZONE